

# BIRTH



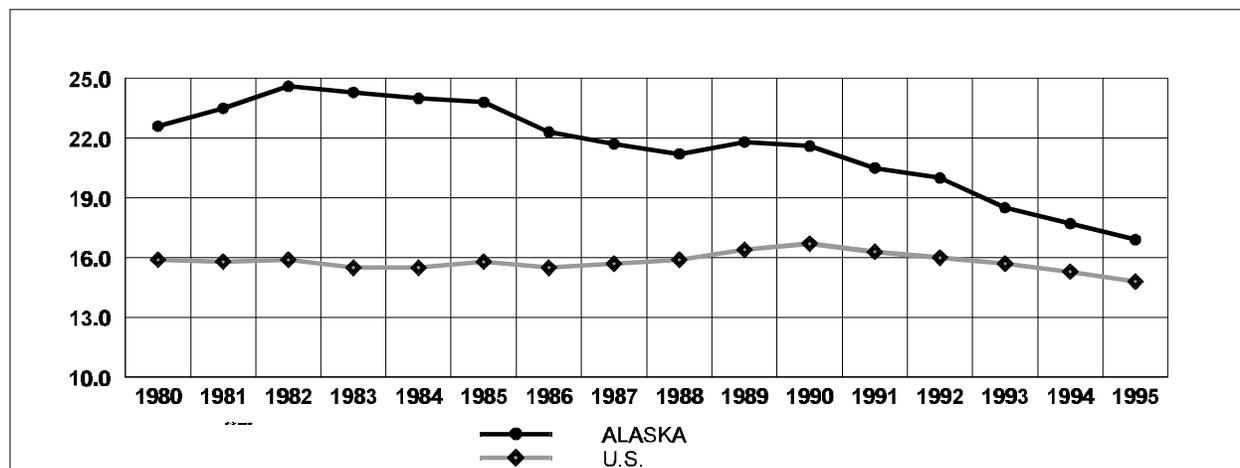
## *10,222 RESIDENT BIRTHS*

### INTRODUCTION

There were 10,222 Alaska resident live births in 1995 (5,238 boys and 4,984 girls). This is a decrease of 4.3 percent from the 10,679 births recorded in 1994.<sup>1</sup> The 1995 crude birth rate of 16.9 per 1,000 population (see Table 1.1A on page 11) represents a 4.5 percent decrease from the 1994 crude birth rate of 17.7 per 1,000 population, and a 15.5 percent decrease from the 1992 crude birth rate of 20.0 per 1,000 population.<sup>2</sup> The 1995 crude birth rate for the United States was 14.8 live births per 1,000 population.<sup>3</sup> While the U.S. rate has ranged from 14.8 to 16.7 births per 1,000 population, the Alaska rate has steadily declined, from a high of 24.5 births per 1,000 population in 1982 to a low of 16.9 in 1995.

- 1 Crondahl, J., Mitchell, P., Zenk, A.E., Anderson, C., Walden, S. and Juan, I. Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, *Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics 1994 Annual Report*, Juneau, Alaska. June 1996, p. 9.
- 2 Zenk, A.E., Skagerberg, V.R., Withington, R.P., and Walden, S.L. Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, *Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics 1992 Annual Report*, Juneau, Alaska. January 1995, p. 9. Rates have been recalculated according to population estimates shown in Appendix I.
- 3 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 3.

CHART 1.1 CRUDE BIRTH RATES, UNITED STATES AND ALASKA, 1980-1995



There were 134 multiple births with 130 sets of twins and 4 sets of triplets in 1995.

The most popular boy's name in 1995 was Michael and the most popular girl's name was Samantha. Michael was also the most popular name in 1980 and 1990. Samantha ranked as the fifth most popular name in 1990, and did not appear in the top ten list in 1980. The table below shows the most popular boys' and girls' names for the years 1980, 1990, and 1995.

RANK	BOYS' NAMES			GIRLS' NAMES		
	1980	1990	1995	1980	1990	1995
1	MICHAEL	MICHAEL	MICHAEL	JESSICA	JESSICA	SAMANTHA
2	CHRISTOPHER	CHRISTOPHER	JACOB	JENNIFER	ASHLEY	HANNAH
3	JAMES	JOSHUA	BRANDON	SARAH	AMANDA	JESSICA
4	JOSHUA	MATTHEW	TYLER	AMANDA	BRITTANY	SARAH
5	ROBERT	DAVID	JOHN	MELISSA	SAMANTHA	ASHLEY
6	DAVID	ANDREW	AUSTIN	AMBER	MEGAN	EMILY
7	JOHN	JAMES	DANIEL	MICHELLE	SARAH	AMANDA
8	MATTHEW	DANIEL	JAMES	HEATHER	RACHEL	KAYLA
9	JASON	JACOB	MATTHEW	REBECCA	JENNIFER	MEGAN
10	JOSEPH	RYAN	CHRISTOPHER	ERIN	ELIZABETH	JORDAN

The incidence of low birth weight babies (under 2500 grams or 5 pounds 8 ounces and under) born in the five-year period from 1991 through 1995 was 5.0 percent of total live births, up from 4.9 percent from 1990 through 1994.

During 1995, 19.2 percent of mothers reported using tobacco at some time during their pregnancies, and 4.3 percent reported using alcohol. In the five years from 1991-1995, mothers under twenty were more likely than any other age group to use tobacco, and were as likely to use alcohol than mothers in their twenties even though they were not of legal drinking age.

The natural increase in population (the increase of births over deaths) was 7,664 persons, representing a natural increase rate of 12.7 persons per 1,000 population. This is a 6.6 percent decrease from the 13.6 persons per 1,000 population natural increase rate in 1994.

June had the most births with 913 or 8.9 percent of the total; February had the fewest births with 742, 7.3 percent of the total.

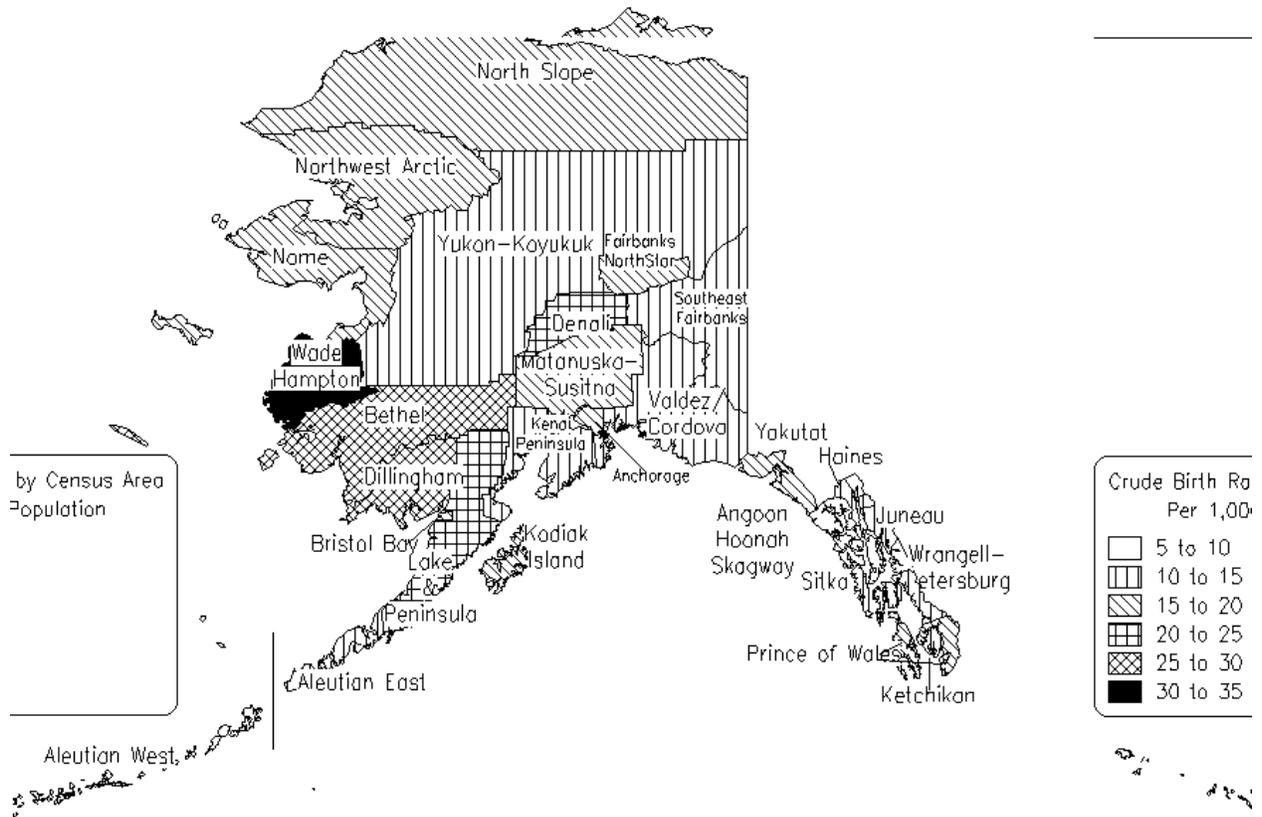
## BIRTHS BY RESIDENCE AND OCCURRENCE

In order to calculate birth rates, fertility rates, or any of the other rates used in this report, estimates of the population must be made. Population estimates are provided by the Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit. Please refer to Appendix I for population estimates used in this report.

TABLE 1.1A RESIDENT BIRTHS, ESTIMATED POPULATIONS, CRUDE BIRTH RATES, FEMALE POPULATION AGES 15-44, AND FERTILITY RATES BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	BIRTHS	POP	CRUDE BIRTH RATE	FEMALES 15-44	FERTILITY RATE
ALEUTIANS EAST	25	2,230	11.2	490	51.0
ALEUTIANS WEST	47	5,961	7.9	1,389	33.8
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	4,439	253,614	17.5	62,450	71.1
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKAGWAY	34	3,733	9.1	812	41.9
BETHEL	383	15,282	25.1	3,244	118.1
BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH	23	1,204	19.1	282	81.6
DENALI BOROUGH	36	1,796	20.0	444	81.1
DILLINGHAM	114	4,371	26.1	942	121.0
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	1,489	81,843	18.2	20,148	73.9
HAINES BOROUGH	26	2,295	11.3	493	52.7
JUNEAU BOROUGH	389	28,757	13.5	6,757	57.6
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH	668	46,092	14.5	10,871	61.4
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH	192	14,773	13.0	3,315	57.9
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH	273	14,643	18.6	3,305	82.6
LAKE AND PENINSULA	40	1,824	21.9	382	104.7
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH	762	49,046	15.5	11,582	65.8
NOME	181	8,889	20.4	1,867	96.9
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH	126	6,950	18.1	1,485	84.8
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH	122	6,603	18.5	1,301	93.8
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN	104	6,755	15.4	1,428	72.8
SITKA BOROUGH	124	8,891	13.9	2,069	59.9
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS	93	6,472	14.4	1,425	65.3
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	136	10,461	13.0	2,347	57.9
WADE HAMPTON	201	6,641	30.3	1,287	156.2
WRANGELL-PETERSBURG	88	7,198	12.2	1,530	57.5
YAKUTAT	14	767	18.3	161	87.0
YUKON-KOYUKUK	93	6,362	14.6	1,252	74.3
TOTAL	10,222	603,453	16.9	143,058	71.5

MAP 1.1 CRUDE BIRTH RATE BY CENSUS AREA OF THE MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995



Fertility rate is a more accurate measure than crude birth rate since it is a measure of the number of births compared to the number of women of normal child-bearing age (15-44 years). Table 1.1 shows the total births, crude birth rates, and fertility rates by census area. The 1995 fertility rate for Alaska was 71.5 births per 1,000 women of child-bearing age. This is a 3.4 percent decrease from the 74.0 births per 1,000 women of child-bearing age in 1994; and is 9.0 percent above the 1995 United States' fertility rate of 65.6.<sup>4</sup> The Alaska fertility rates peaked in 1982 at 91.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15-44.

4 Ibid.

TABLE 1.1B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	BIRTHS
AHTNA INC	53
ALEUT CORP	72
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP	126
BERING STRAITS CORP	181
BRISTOL BAY CORP	174
CALISTA CORP	584
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	145
COOK INLET REG CORP	5,816
DOYON LTD	1,705
KONIAG INC	273
NANA REGIONAL CORP	122
SEALASKA CORP	971
TOTAL	10,222

CHART 1.2A FERTILITY RATES WITH 95% CONFIDENCE INTERVALS BY CENSUS AREAS, ALASKA, 1995

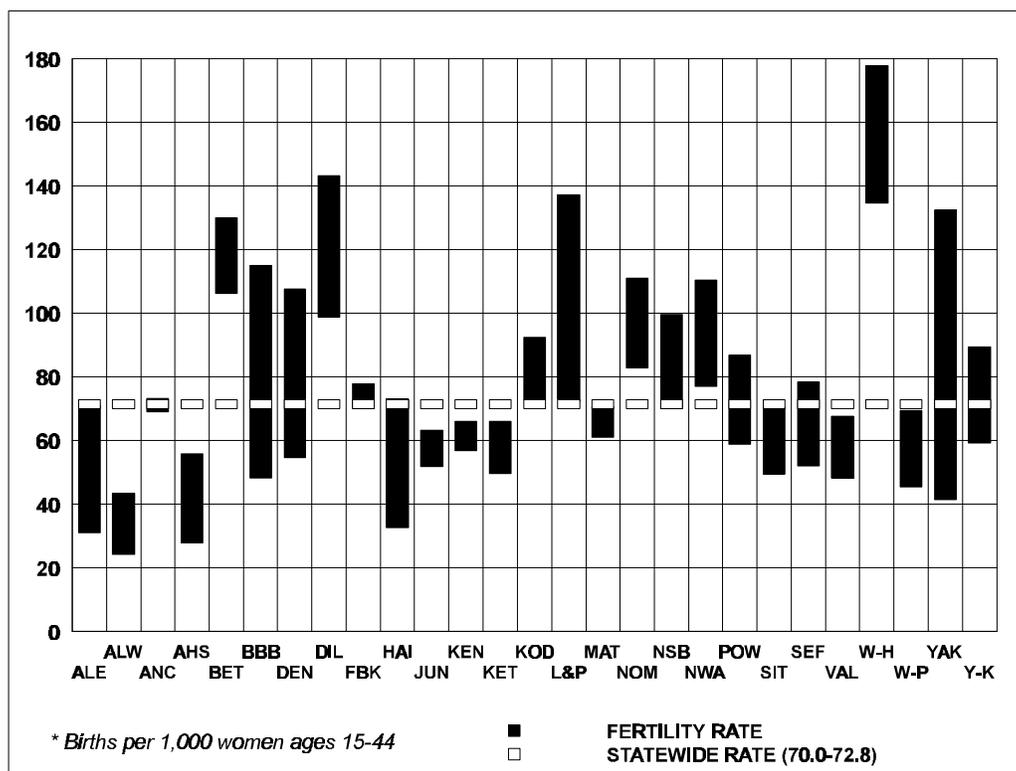
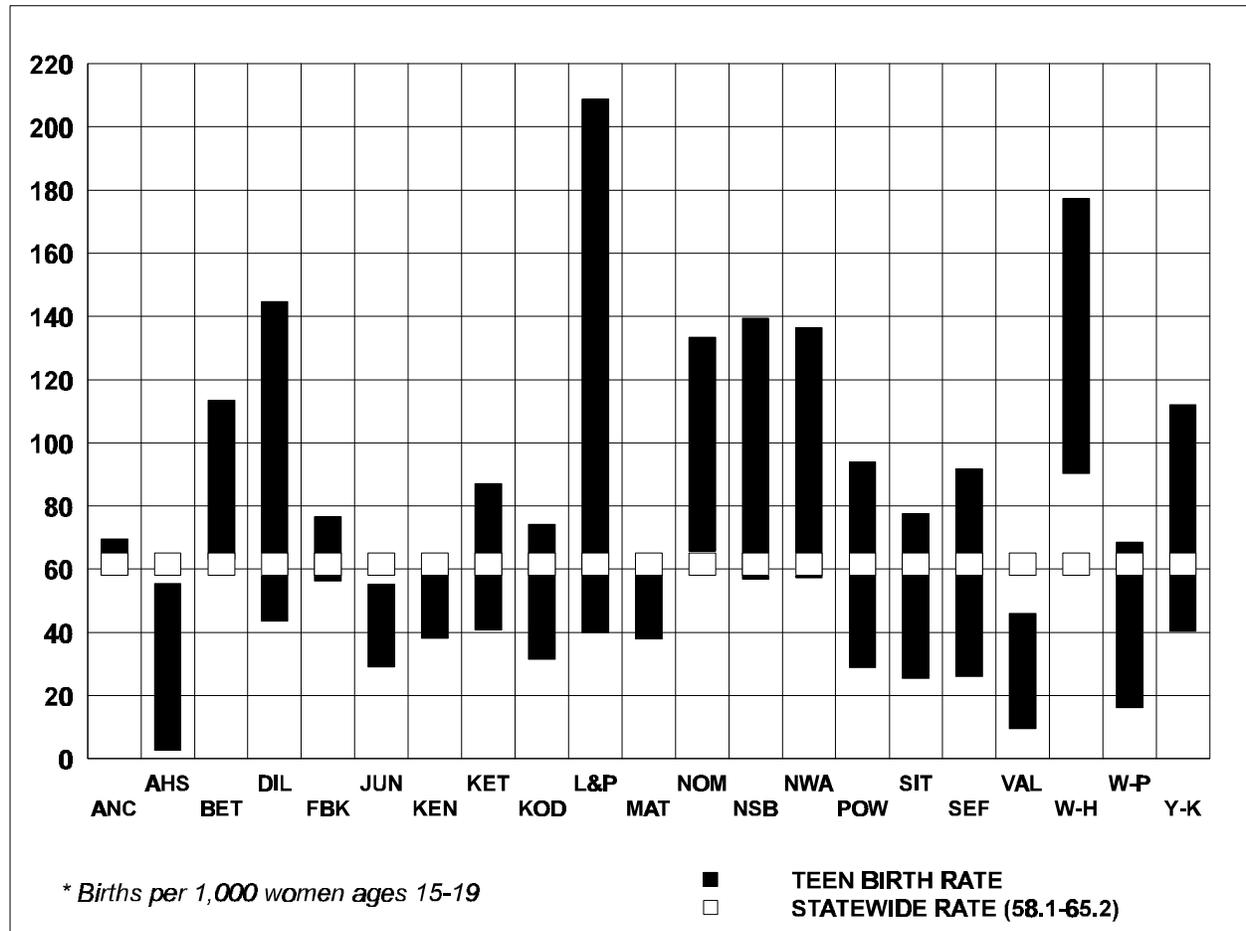


Chart 1.2A provides the 95% confidence interval ranges for fertility rates by census area. Confidence intervals are used to provide an indicator of statistical significance when analyzing small populations. Generally, smaller populations result in wider confidence intervals and less reliable rates. The calculated fertility rate occurs at the exact midpoint of the interval. If the statewide confidence interval falls within the band for a census area, the difference

between the two is not statistically significant. For a more detailed discussion of confidence intervals and statistical significance, refer to Appendix B.

Chart 1.2A shows that the fertility rates for Aleutians West, Angoon-Hoonah-Skagway, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Valdez-Cordova, and Wrangell-Petersburg are significantly lower than the statewide rates. On the other hand, the fertility rates for Bethel, Dillingham, Nome, Northwest Arctic Borough, and Wade-Hampton are significantly higher than for the statewide average.

**CHART 1.2B TEEN BIRTH RATES WITH 95% CONFIDENCE INTERVALS BY CENSUS AREAS, ALASKA, 1993-1995**



Since the birth rate for teens deals with smaller numbers than the general fertility rate, teen births and populations for a three year period, from 1993 through 1995, have been used in calculating teen birth rates by census area. The teen birth rate is calculated by dividing the number of births to teens from ages 15-19 in the three-year period by three, then dividing by the average of the estimated female population in that age group, and multiplying by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Chart 1.2B shows that the Angoon-Hoonah-Skagway, Juneau, and Valdez-Cordova census areas have a teen birth rate below the statewide rate. Nome and Wade-Hampton have a teen birth rate above the statewide average. Census areas not included in this chart (Aleutians East, Aleutians West, Bristol Bay, Denali, Haines, and Yakutat) had too few teen births to result in reliable teen birth rates.

TABLE 1.2A BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE												
	ALE	ANC	AHS	BET	DIL	FBK	HNS	JUN	KPB	KET	KOD	LKP	MSB
ALEUTN EAST	1	22							1				
ALEUTN WEST		35											1
ANCHORAGE		4,393			1	1		1	3				23
ANG-HNH-SKG			1					23					
BETHEL		112		264		1							1
BRISTOL BAY		19			2								
DENALI		3				32							1
DILLINGHAM		39		1	72								
FAIRBANKS		4				1,472			1		1		
HAINES		4					1	8					
JUNEAU		17		1		3		360					
KENAI PEN		76							586		1		
KETCHIKAN		1								180			
KODIAK		32							4		235		
LAKE-PENIN		34			4							1	1
MAT-SU		235							1				524
NOME		72				1							
NORTH SLOPE		45						13					
NW ARCTIC		36				1			3				
PRINCE-WALES		2								86			
SITKA		4											
SE FAIRBANKS		5				81							1
VALDEZ-CORDV		82				4							4
WADE HAMPTON		54		137		1							1
WRANGELL-PBG		2						4		13			
YAKUTAT		5						5	1				
YUKON-KOY		21		2		68							1
TOTAL	1	5,354	1	405	79	1,678	1	401	600	279	237	1	558

Continued ➞

TABLE 1.2A CONTINUED

MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE											TOTAL	
	NOM	NSB	NAB	POW	SIT	SEF	VAL	WAH	WRP	YUK	OOS		
ALEUTN EAST												1	25
ALEUTN WEST												11	47
ANCHORAGE												17	4,439
ANG-HNH-SKG						9	1						34
BETHEL									1			4	383
BRISTOL BAY												2	23
DENALI													36
DILLINGHAM												2	114
FAIRBANKS												11	1,489
HAINES						5						8	26
JUNEAU												8	389
KENAI PEN								1				4	668
KETCHIKAN						4						7	192
KODIAK												2	273
LAKE-PENIN													40
MAT-SU												2	762
NOME	106											2	181
NORTH SLOPE		59	5									4	126
NW ARCTIC			81									1	122
PRINCE-WALES					6	7						3	104
SITKA						114						6	124
SE FAIRBANKS								3				3	93
VALDEZ-CORDV								2	40			4	136
WADE HAMPTON										7		1	201
WRANGELL-PBG						13					50	6	88
YAKUTAT						2						1	14
YUKON-KOY											1		93
TOTAL	106	59	86	6	154	6	41	8	50	1	110	110	10,222

TABLE 1.2B BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RESIDENCE CORPORATION	NATIVE CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE												TOTAL	
	AHTNA	ALEUT	ARCT	BERI	BRIST	CALIS	CHUGA	COOK	DOYON	KONI	NANA	SEAAK		OOS
AHTNA	3						2	39	9					53
ALEUT		1						59					12	72
ARCTIC SLOPE			59					45	13		5		4	126
BERING STRAITS				106				72	1				2	181
BRISTOL BAY					79	1		90					4	174
CALISTA						409		168	2				5	584
CHUGACH							38	102	1				4	145
COOK INLET					1		2	5,787	1	1		1	23	5,816
DOYON						2		35	1,653	1			14	1,705
KONIAG								36		235			2	273
NANA								39	1		81		1	122
SEALASKA						1		36	4			891	39	971
TOTAL	3	1	59	106	80	413	42	6,508	1,685	237	86	892	110	10,222

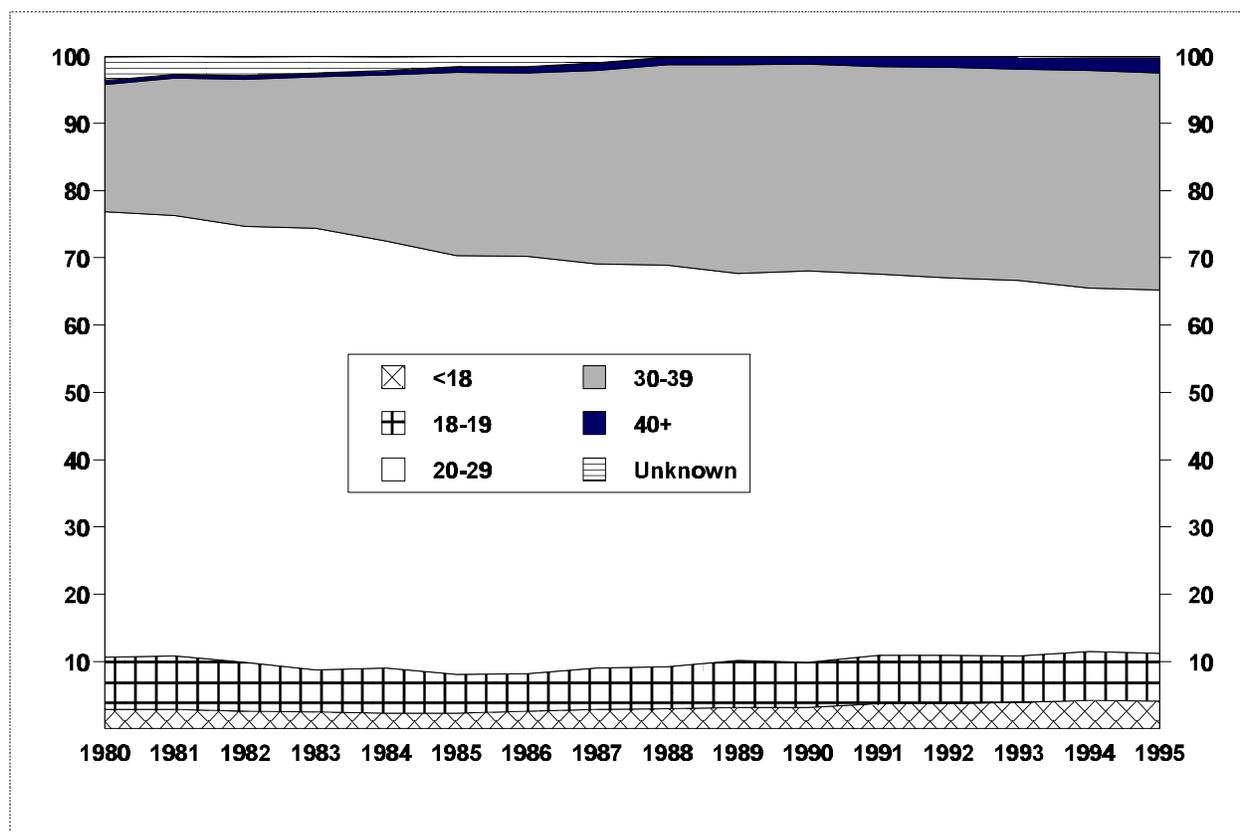
**BIRTHS BY AGE AND RACE**

One change which has occurred in the last fifteen years is the age distribution of mothers. Mothers ages 20-29 accounted for 54.0 percent of all births in 1995, down from 66.3 percent of all births in 1980. Mothers ages 30-39 accounted for 32.3 percent of all births in 1995, up from 18.9 percent in 1980. While there has been some change in the percentage of mothers under 20 and 40 and above, these changes are small by comparison with other age groups. (See Chart 1.3.)

**TABLE 1.3A RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY AGE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1980-1995**

AGE OF MOTHER	YEAR							
	1980		1985		1990		1995	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<18	280	2.9	293	2.3	364	3.1	415	4.1
18-19	731	7.7	755	5.8	813	6.8	730	7.1
20-29	6,300	66.3	8,022	62.2	6,922	58.2	5,520	54.0
30-39	1,798	18.9	3,519	27.3	3,650	30.7	3,304	32.3
40+	58	0.6	109	0.8	149	1.3	243	2.4
UNKNOWN	329	3.5	209	1.6	3	0.0	10	0.1
TOTAL	9,496	100.0	12,907	100.0	11,901	100.0	10,222	100.0

**CHART 1.3 PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1980-1995**



In addition to base population estimates, another factor which affects race-specific birth and fertility rates is the way in which race is determined at birth. According to standards set by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the mother's race determines the child's race.

Table 1.3B shows differences in age distribution of mothers by race. In 1995, 8.6 percent of all white infants and 9.0 percent of all Asian/Pacific Islander infants were born to mothers under 20, while 18.0 percent of all Native infants and 18.8 percent of all black infants were born to mothers under 20. Even more startling is the difference in age distribution of first-time mothers. Approximately 18 percent of first-time white and Asian/Pacific Islander mothers were under the age of 20 while 47.4 percent of Native first-time mothers and 36.4 percent of black first-time mothers were under the age of 20.

A comparison of total births and first-time births is an indicator of parity. For instance, 40.6 percent of white infants and 30.2 percent of Native infants were born to first-time mothers, indicating that Native mothers have more children than white mothers.

**TABLE 1.3B RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY AGE AND RACE FOR ALL MOTHERS AND FIRST-TIME MOTHERS, ALASKA, 1995**

AGE	ALL MOTHERS										TOTAL
	WHITE		NATIVE		BLACK		ASIAN/PI		UNKN		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<18	191	2.7	175	7.6	28	6.3	20	4.1	1	4.5	415
18-19	411	5.9	239	10.4	56	12.5	24	4.9			730
20-29	3,741	53.7	1,255	54.6	263	58.8	250	51.5	11	50.0	5,520
30-39	2,423	34.8	593	25.8	96	21.5	182	37.5	10	45.5	3,304
40+	196	2.8	35	1.5	4	0.9	8	1.6			243
UNKNOWN	6	0.1	3	0.1			1	0.2			10
TOTAL	6,968	100.0	2,300	100.0	447	100.0	485	100.0	22	100.0	10,222
AGE	FIRST-TIME MOTHERS										TOTAL
	WHITE		NATIVE		BLACK		ASIAN/PI		UNKN		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<18	176	6.2	155	22.3	25	13.4	19	9.2	1	20.0	376
18-19	329	11.6	174	25.1	43	23.0	18	8.7			564
20-29	1,635	57.8	322	46.4	98	52.4	116	56.0	2	40.0	2,173
30-39	632	22.4	41	5.9	20	10.7	52	25.1	2	40.0	747
40+	55	1.9	1	0.1	1	0.5	1	0.5			58
UNKNOWN			1	0.1			1	0.5			2
TOTAL	2,827	100.0	694	100.0	187	100.0	207	100.0	5	100.0	3,920

TABLE 1.3C COMPARISON OF AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES BY THE MOTHER'S RACE, ALASKA AND THE UNITED STATES, 1990, 1994, 1995

MOTHER		ALASKA					UNITED STATES*				
AGE	RACE	RATE			CHANGE		RATE			CHANGE	
		1990	1994	1995	90-95	94-95	1990	1994	1995	90-95	94-95
15-17	WHITE	25.2	27.3	20.7	-17.9	-24.2	29.5	30.7	30.0	1.7	-2.3
	NATIVE**	55.6	57.7	63.8	14.7	10.6	N/A	51.3	47.8	N/A	-6.8
	BLACK	62.6	67.2	50.5	-19.3	-24.9	82.3	76.3	69.7	-15.3	-8.7
	ASIAN/PI	9.2	30.5	36.9	301.1	21.0	N/A	16.1	15.4	N/A	-4.3
	TOTAL	32.2	35.6	31.8	-1.2	-10.7	37.5	37.6	36.0	-4.0	-4.3
18-19	WHITE	101.8	94.3	84.1	-17.4	-10.8	78.0	82.1	81.2	4.1	-1.1
	NATIVE**	193.6	167.9	155.9	-19.5	-7.1	N/A	130.3	130.7	N/A	0.3
	BLACK	143.3	129.0	168.2	17.4	30.4	152.9	148.3	137.1	-10.3	-7.6
	ASIAN/PI	79.2	78.8	80.0	1.0	1.5	N/A	44.1	43.4	N/A	-1.6
	TOTAL	120.9	112.6	103.5	-14.4	-8.1	88.6	91.5	89.1	0.6	-2.6
15-19	WHITE	54.8	51.7	43.2	-21.2	-16.4	50.8	51.1	50.1	-1.4	-2.0
	NATIVE**	107.9	99.2	97.7	-9.5	-1.5	N/A	80.8	78.0	N/A	-3.5
	BLACK	96.2	91.6	94.6	-1.7	3.3	112.8	104.5	96.1	-14.8	-8.0
	ASIAN/PI	34.2	48.5	52.8	54.4	8.9	N/A	27.1	26.1	N/A	-3.7
	TOTAL	66.3	63.9	57.6	-13.1	-9.9	59.9	58.9	56.8	-5.2	-3.6
20-24	WHITE	160.7	141.0	137.9	-14.2	-2.2	109.8	106.2	106.3	-3.2	0.1
	NATIVE**	251.7	202.7	199.2	-20.9	-1.7	N/A	134.2	132.5	N/A	-1.3
	BLACK	166.4	136.4	144.0	-13.5	5.6	160.2	146.0	137.1	-14.4	-6.1
	ASIAN/PI	156.5	138.3	154.2	-1.5	11.5	N/A	73.1	72.4	N/A	-1.0
	TOTAL	178.2	152.9	150.8	-15.4	-1.4	116.5	111.1	109.8	-5.8	-1.2
25-29	WHITE	128.2	112.2	114.7	-10.5	2.2	120.7	115.5	114.8	-4.9	-0.6
	NATIVE**	211.7	165.1	167.0	-21.1	1.2	N/A	104.1	98.4	N/A	-5.5
	BLACK	122.2	85.9	67.7	-44.6	-21.2	115.5	104.0	98.6	-14.6	-5.2
	ASIAN/PI	144.2	180.2	163.6	13.5	-9.2	N/A	118.6	113.4	N/A	-4.4
	TOTAL	141.9	122.1	121.3	-14.5	-0.7	120.2	113.9	112.2	-6.7	-1.5
30-34	WHITE	81.0	78.1	77.7	-4.1	-0.5	81.7	83.2	84.6	3.5	1.7
	NATIVE**	127.7	111.8	105.8	-17.1	-5.4	N/A	61.2	62.2	N/A	1.6
	BLACK	70.9	71.4	62.0	-12.6	-13.2	68.7	65.8	64.0	-6.8	-2.7
	ASIAN/PI	95.0	79.4	99.0	4.2	24.7	N/A	105.2	106.9	N/A	1.6
	TOTAL	87.5	83.5	82.3	-5.9	-1.4	80.8	81.5	82.5	2.1	1.2
35-39	WHITE	38.7	36.1	35.3	-8.8	-2.2	31.5	33.7	34.5	9.5	2.4
	NATIVE**	63.2	47.2	45.2	-28.5	-4.2	N/A	27.5	27.7	N/A	0.7
	BLACK	35.7	31.3	23.8	-33.3	-24.0	28.1	28.9	28.7	2.1	-0.7
	ASIAN/PI	44.7	34.2	39.6	-11.4	15.8	N/A	51.3	52.4	N/A	2.1
	TOTAL	41.7	37.7	36.6	-12.2	-2.9	31.7	33.7	34.3	8.2	1.8
40-44***	WHITE	6.1	7.3	9.4	54.1	28.8	5.2	6.2	6.4	23.1	3.2
	NATIVE**	13.9	14.8	11.0	-20.9	-25.7	N/A	5.9	6.1	N/A	3.4
	BLACK	4.3	1.3	4.9	14.0	276.9	5.5	5.9	6.0	9.1	1.7
	ASIAN/PI	10.4	13.8	6.3	-39.4	-54.3	N/A	11.6	12.1	N/A	4.3
	TOTAL	7.2	8.4	9.3	29.2	10.7	5.5	6.4	6.6	20.0	3.1

\* U.S. data from National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, Table 3, p. 27.

\*\* US Data on Native line is for American Indians

\*\*\* Includes births to mothers over 44 years old

TABLE 1.3D RACE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES, FERTILITY RATES, AND TEEN BIRTH RATES, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RACE	BIRTHS	TOTAL POPULATION	RACE SPECIFIC BIRTH RATE	FEMALES 15-44	FERTILITY RATE	TEEN BIRTHS	FEMALES 15-19	TEEN BIRTH RATE
WHITE	6,968	452,650	15.4	108,138	64.4	595	13,765	43.2
NATIVE	2,300	98,363	23.4	22,064	104.2	407	4,166	97.7
BLACK	447	26,974	16.6	6,511	68.7	84	888	94.6
ASIAN/PI	485	25,466	19.0	6,345	76.4	43	815	52.8
UNKNOWN	22					1		
TOTAL	10,222	603,453	16.9	143,058	71.5	1,130	19,634	57.6

Race-specific birth rates are the number of live births in a specified population, divided by the estimated population of that race, and multiplied by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Fertility rates are the number of live births, divided by the number of women ages 15 to 44 in the estimated population, multiplied by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Teen birth rates are the number of births to teens ages 15-19, divided by the estimated population of females ages 15-19, multiplied by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Unlike Chart 1.2B which shows teen birth rates by census area calculated on a 3-year average, teen birth rates by race have been calculated on a single year basis because of the larger populations. Race-specific birth, fertility, and teen birth rates provide a useful means of comparing two populations.

CHART 1.4 RACE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, ALASKA, 1992-1995

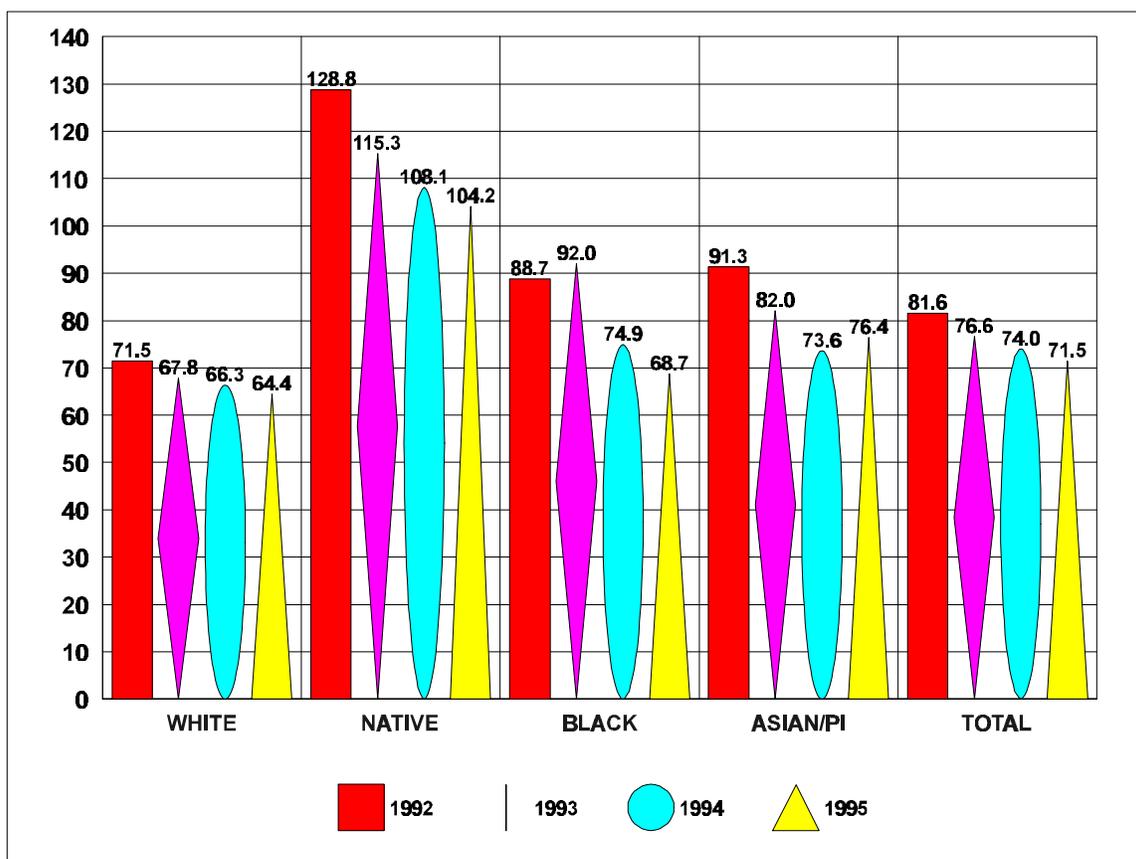
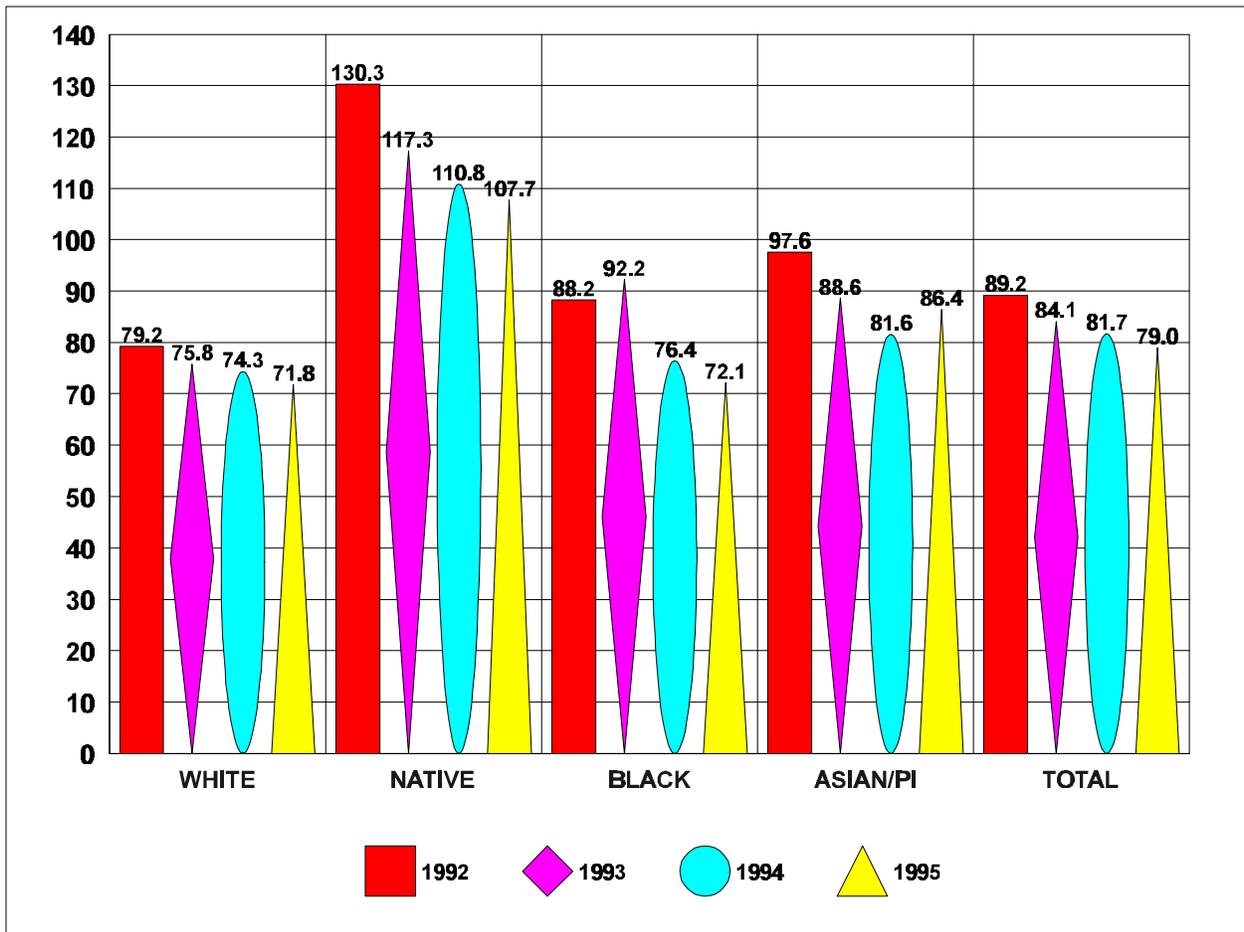


CHART 1.5 AGE-ADJUSTED BIRTH RATES BY RACE, ALASKA, 1992-1995



For this report, age-adjusted rates are birth rates standardized to 1940 standard million population. This allows comparisons between populations with different age distributions.

CHART 1.6 RACE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES FOR TEENS (AGES 15-19), ALASKA, 1992-1995

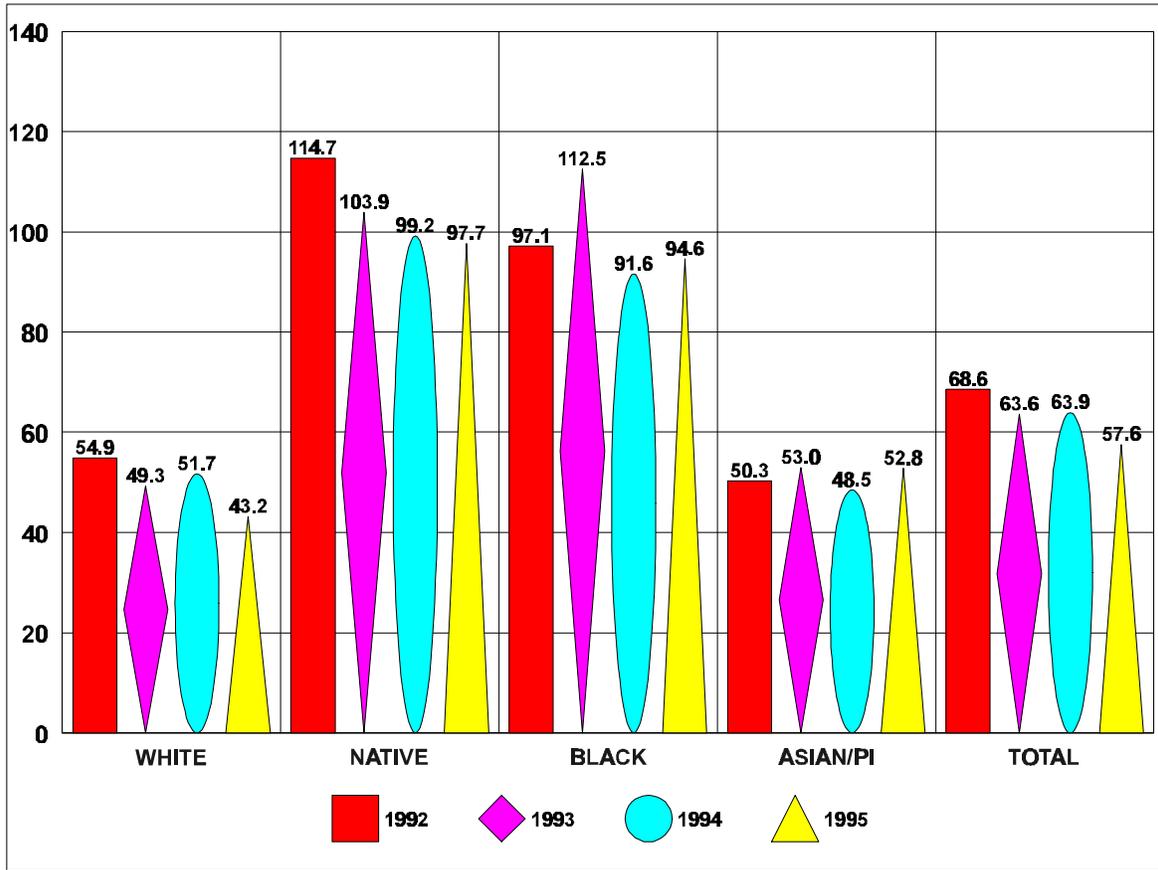


TABLE 1.4 PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENT BIRTHS BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S		BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS									
		<750	750-1499	1500-1999	2000-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-3999	4000-4499	4500+	UNKN
AGE	RACE	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<15 YRS	WHITE						42.9	42.9			14.3
	NATIVE						28.6	42.9	14.3	14.3	
	ASIAN/PI							100.0			
15-17 YRS	WHITE		2.2	3.8	7.6	16.8	33.7	29.9	4.9	1.1	
	NATIVE		0.6	1.2	3.0	14.3	33.3	32.1	13.7	1.8	
	BLACK		7.1		10.7	28.6	42.9	10.7			
	ASIAN/PI				5.3	26.3	36.8	31.6			
	UNKNOWN						100.0				
18-19 YRS	WHITE		1.5	0.5	5.4	15.8	35.8	32.8	7.1	1.2	
	NATIVE	0.4	0.4	1.3	2.9	8.8	33.9	35.6	13.4	2.9	0.4
	BLACK			5.4	5.4	25.0	35.7	25.0	1.8		1.8
	ASIAN/PI				4.2	20.8	41.7	29.2	4.2		
	UNKNOWN						100.0				
20-24 YRS	WHITE	0.2	0.6	0.8	3.0	13.0	35.4	34.5	10.6	1.8	0.2
	NATIVE	0.1	0.7	1.2	2.5	10.6	27.9	38.5	15.6	2.3	0.6
	BLACK	1.3	1.3	1.9	5.1	19.1	41.4	28.0	0.6	1.3	
	ASIAN/PI	0.9	0.9	1.8	4.6	15.6	39.4	27.5	5.5	3.7	
	UNKNOWN						40.0	60.0			
25-29 YRS	WHITE	0.1	0.5	0.4	3.2	12.1	33.7	34.8	12.2	2.7	0.2
	NATIVE		0.4	1.2	2.8	10.6	29.4	36.0	15.2	3.9	0.4
	BLACK		2.8	0.9	4.7	20.8	41.5	21.7	6.6	0.9	
	ASIAN/PI	0.7			3.5	16.3	41.8	28.4	7.1	2.1	
	UNKNOWN						16.7	16.7			66.7
30-34 YRS	WHITE	0.2	0.8	0.7	3.8	10.4	30.8	34.9	14.9	3.5	0.1
	NATIVE	0.2	1.0	0.7	2.7	11.3	27.5	34.0	16.6	5.5	0.5
	BLACK		1.4	2.7	15.1	15.1	31.5	27.4	5.5	1.4	
	ASIAN/PI	0.8			4.8	15.9	40.5	27.0	8.7	1.6	0.8
	UNKNOWN			16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	33.3			
35-39 YRS	WHITE	0.2	0.6	0.7	2.5	12.1	27.2	36.7	15.0	4.9	0.1
	NATIVE	1.7	0.6		2.2	16.3	29.8	30.3	15.7	3.4	
	BLACK		4.3		13.0	17.4	43.5	17.4	4.3		
	ASIAN/PI	1.8			1.8	16.1	30.4	28.6	14.3	7.1	
	UNKNOWN						25.0	25.0			50.0
40-44 YRS	WHITE			2.6	3.2	10.1	33.3	28.6	15.9	5.3	1.1
	NATIVE	2.9		2.9	8.6	5.7	17.1	37.1	17.1	8.6	
	BLACK				25.0	25.0		50.0			
	ASIAN/PI					14.3	57.1	28.6			
45+ YRS	WHITE					14.3	42.9	42.9			
	ASIAN/PI					100.0					
UNKWN	WHITE						16.7	16.7			66.7
	NATIVE						33.3	33.3	33.3		
	ASIAN/PI						100.0				
<b>TOTAL</b>		0.2	0.7	0.9	3.5	12.5	32.6	34.1	12.3	2.9	0.3

**TABLE 1.5A RESIDENT BIRTHS TO TEENAGE MOTHERS BY CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, AGE AND MARITAL STATUS, ALASKA, 1995**

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	MOTHER'S AGE						TOTAL		
	<15		15-17		18-19		MARRIED		
	MARRIED		MARRIED		MARRIED		YES	NO	TOTAL
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	TOTAL
ALEUTIANS EAST				1		3		4	4
ALEUTIANS WEST						2		2	2
ANCHORAGE		7	16	153	97	186	113	346	459
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG				2		3		5	5
BETHEL		2		13	5	22	5	37	42
DENALI			1			1	1	1	2
DILLINGHAM				8	3	7	3	15	18
FAIRBANKS NSB		1	10	35	55	51	65	87	152
HAINES BOROUGH					1	1	1	1	2
JUNEAU BOROUGH		2	2	7	7	16	9	25	34
KENAI PENINSULA		1	8	15	24	33	32	49	81
KETCHIKAN			2	7	6	12	8	19	27
KODIAK ISLAND			2	7	3	8	5	15	20
LAKE-PENINSULA				5	1	4	1	9	10
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA			2	27	22	46	24	73	97
NOME		1		12		18		31	31
NORTH SLOPE				15		13		28	28
NORTHWEST ARCTIC				8		11		19	19
PRINCE OF WALES				5	3	4	3	9	12
SITKA BOROUGH			1	2	3	7	4	9	13
SE FAIRBANKS				5	3	7	3	12	15
VALDEZ-CORDOVA				5	1	5	1	10	11
WADE HAMPTON		1		18	1	13	1	32	33
WRANGELL-PETERSBG				2	4	6	4	8	12
YAKUTAT				1		1		2	2
YUKON-KOYUKUK				3	2	9	2	12	14
TOTAL		15	44	356	241	489	285	860	1,145

**TABLE 1.5B RESIDENT BIRTHS TO TEENAGE MOTHERS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, AGE AND MARITAL STATUS, ALASKA, 1995**

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	MOTHER'S AGE						TOTAL		
	<15		15-17		18-19		MARRIED		
	MARRIED		MARRIED		MARRIED		YES	NO	TOTAL
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	TOTAL
AHTNA INC				1		4		5	5
ALEUT CORP				1		5		6	6
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP				15		13		28	28
BERING STRAITS CORP		1		12		18		31	31
BRISTOL BAY CORP				13	4	11	4	24	28
CALISTA CORP		3		31	6	35	6	69	75
CHUGACH NATIVES INC				5	2	3	2	8	10
COOK INLET REG CORP		8	26	194	142	263	168	465	633
DOYON LTD		1	11	43	60	68	71	112	183
KONIAG INC			2	7	3	8	5	15	20
NANA REGIONAL CORP				8		11		19	19
SEALASKA CORP		2	5	26	24	50	29	78	107
TOTAL		15	44	356	241	489	285	860	1,145

TABLE 1.6A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, RACE, AND SEX OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	RACE OF MOTHER					SEX OF CHILD		TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNKN	MALE	FEMALE	
ALEUTIANS EAST	6	19				10	15	25
ALEUTIANS WEST	24	16			7	24	23	47
ANCHORAGE	3,292	537	313	289	8	2,253	2,186	4,439
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG	21	13				18	16	34
BETHEL	31	349		3		178	205	383
BRISTOL BAY	10	13				12	11	23
DENALI	32	2		2		18	18	36
DILLINGHAM	15	99				66	48	114
FAIRBANKS NSB	1,187	133	109	58	2	757	732	1,489
HAINES BOROUGH	15	5			6	13	13	26
JUNEAU BOROUGH	292	68	2	27		215	174	389
KENAI PENINSULA	604	52	4	7	1	339	329	668
KETCHIKAN	143	38	2	8	1	96	96	192
KODIAK ISLAND	170	51	2	50		148	125	273
LAKE-PENINSULA	7	33				22	18	40
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	671	76	3	12		394	368	762
NOME	23	156	1		1	101	80	181
NORTH SLOPE	10	109	1	6		69	57	126
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	8	114				61	61	122
PRINCE OF WALES	52	50			2	48	56	104
SITKA BOROUGH	82	34		7	1	62	62	124
SE FAIRBANKS	68	14	9	2		60	33	93
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	107	24	1	4		71	65	136
WADE HAMPTON	6	195				108	93	201
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	66	21		1		40	48	88
YAKUTAT	5	9				9	5	14
YUKON-KOYUKUK	21	70		2		46	47	93
TOTAL	6,968	2,300	447	485	22	5,238	4,984	10,222

TABLE 1.6B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, RACE, AND SEX OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1995

N R C OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	RACE OF MOTHER					SEX OF CHILD		TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNKNOWN	MALE	FEMALE	
AHTNA INC	38	15				24	29	53
ALEUT CORP	30	35		7		34	38	72
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP	10	109	1	6		69	57	126
BERING STRAITS CORP	23	156	1		1	101	80	181
BRISTOL BAY CORP	29	145				99	75	174
CALISTA CORP	37	544		3		286	298	584
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	115	23	1	6		77	68	145
COOK INLET REG CORP	4,529	652	320	306	9	2,961	2,855	5,816
DOYON LTD	1,303	218	118	64	2	877	828	1,705
KONIAG INC	170	51	2	50		148	125	273
NANA REGIONAL CORP	8	114				61	61	122
SEALASKA CORP	676	238	4	43	10	501	470	971
TOTAL	6,968	2,300	447	485	22	5,238	4,984	10,222

TABLE 1.7A RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY MOTHER'S AGE AND CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA	AGE OF MOTHER																		TOTAL			
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45+			UNK		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	
ALEUTIANS EAST			1	4.0	3	12.0	3	12.0	8	32.0	8	32.0	2	8.0								25
ALEUTIANS WEST					2	4.3	5	10.6	13	27.7	18	38.3	9	19.1								47
ANCHORAGE	7	0.2	169	3.8	283	6.4	1,170	26.4	1,193	26.9	1,028	23.2	473	10.7	109	2.5	2	0.0	5	0.1		4,439
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG			2	5.9	3	8.8	10	29.4	9	26.5	5	14.7	3	8.8	2	5.9						34
BETHEL	2	0.5	13	3.4	27	7.0	105	27.4	107	27.9	81	21.1	36	9.4	10	2.6	1	0.3	1	0.3		383
BRISTOL BAY							9	39.1	8	34.8	6	26.1										23
DENALI			1	2.8	1	2.8	4	11.1	13	36.1	12	33.3	4	11.1	1	2.8						36
DILLINGHAM			8	7.0	10	8.8	20	17.5	32	28.1	30	26.3	12	10.5	2	1.8						114
FAIRBANKS NSB	1	0.1	45	3.0	106	7.1	475	31.9	420	28.2	291	19.5	129	8.7	21	1.4	1	0.1				1,489
HAINES BOROUGH					2	7.7	6	23.1	6	23.1	6	23.1	3	11.5	2	7.7	1	3.8				26
JUNEAU BOROUGH	2	0.5	9	2.3	23	5.9	96	24.7	104	26.7	98	25.2	43	11.1	14	3.6						389
KENAI PENINSULA	1	0.1	23	3.4	57	8.5	190	28.4	178	26.6	128	19.2	76	11.4	14	2.1			1	0.1		668
KETCHIKAN			9	4.7	18	9.4	53	27.6	51	26.6	39	20.3	17	8.9	4	2.1				1	0.5	192
KODIAK ISLAND			9	3.3	11	4.0	56	20.5	90	33.0	69	25.3	32	11.7	5	1.8	1	0.4				273
LAKE-PENINSULA			5	12.5	5	12.5	12	30.0	6	15.0	6	15.0	4	10.0	2	5.0						40
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA			29	3.8	68	8.9	202	26.5	188	24.7	153	20.1	94	12.3	27	3.5			1	0.1		762
NOME	1	0.6	12	6.6	18	9.9	51	28.2	50	27.6	29	16.0	16	8.8	4	2.2						181
NORTH SLOPE			15	11.9	13	10.3	32	25.4	27	21.4	32	25.4	5	4.0	1	0.8	1	0.8				126
NORTHWEST ARCTIC			8	6.6	11	9.0	31	25.4	32	26.2	31	25.4	9	7.4								122
PRINCE OF WALES			5	4.8	7	6.7	26	25.0	33	31.7	20	19.2	10	9.6	3	2.9						104
SITKA BOROUGH			3	2.4	10	8.1	26	21.0	38	30.6	28	22.6	18	14.5	1	0.8						124
SE FAIRBANKS			5	5.4	10	10.8	31	33.3	26	28.0	7	7.5	8	8.6	6	6.5						93
VALDEZ-CORDOVA			5	3.7	6	4.4	36	26.5	18	13.2	42	30.9	24	17.6	3	2.2	1	0.7	1	0.7		136
WADE HAMPTON	1	0.5	18	9.0	14	7.0	68	33.8	49	24.4	33	16.4	16	8.0	2	1.0						201
WRANGELL-PETERSBG			2	2.3	10	11.4	20	22.7	30	34.1	16	18.2	10	11.4								88
YAKUTAT			1	7.1	1	7.1	4	28.6	3	21.4	5	35.7										14
YUKON-KOYUKUK			3	3.2	11	11.8	22	23.7	25	26.9	20	21.5	10	10.8	2	2.2						93
TOTAL	15	0.1	400	3.9	730	7.1	2,763	27.0	2,757	27.0	2,241	21.9	1,063	10.4	235	2.3	8	0.1	10	0.1		10,222

TABLE 1.7B RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY MOTHER'S AGE AND NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995

N R C OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	AGE OF MOTHER																		TOTAL				
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45+			UNK			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%		
AHTNA INC			1	1.9	4	7.5	11	20.8	12	22.6	14	26.4	8	15.1	2	3.8					1	1.9	53
ALEUT CORP			1	1.4	5	6.9	8	11.1	21	29.2	26	36.1	11	15.3									72
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP			15	11.9	13	10.3	32	25.4	27	21.4	32	25.4	5	4.0	1	0.8	1	0.8					126
BERING STRAITS CORP	1	0.6	12	6.6	18	9.9	51	28.2	50	27.6	29	16.0	16	8.8	4	2.2							181
BRISTOL BAY CORP			13	7.5	15	8.6	40	23.0	45	25.9	42	24.1	15	8.6	4	2.3							174
CALISTA CORP	3	0.5	31	5.3	41	7.0	173	29.6	156	26.7	114	19.5	52	8.9	12	2.1	1	0.2	1	0.2		584	
CHUGACH NATIVES INC			5	3.4	5	3.4	39	26.9	31	21.4	40	27.6	20	13.8	4	2.8	1	0.7					145
COOK INLET REG CORP	8	0.1	220	3.8	405	7.0	1,549	26.6	1,539	26.5	1,299	22.3	640	11.0	147	2.5	2	0.0	7	0.1		5,816	
DOYON LTD	1	0.1	54	3.2	128	7.5	532	31.2	480	28.2	328	19.2	151	8.9	30	1.8	1	0.1				1,705	
KONIAG INC			9	3.3	11	4.0	56	20.5	90	33.0	69	25.3	32	11.7	5	1.8	1	0.4				273	
NANA REGIONAL CORP			8	6.6	11	9.0	31	25.4	32	26.2	31	25.4	9	7.4								122	
SEALASKA CORP	2	0.2	31	3.2	74	7.6	241	24.8	274	28.2	217	22.3	104	10.7	26	2.7	1	0.1	1	0.1		971	
TOTAL	15	0.1	400	3.9	730	7.1	2,763	27.0	2,757	27.0	2,241	21.9	1,063	10.4	235	2.3	8	0.1	10	0.1		10,222	

**TABLE 1.8A RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY MOTHER'S AGE AND RACE, ALASKA, 1995**

MOTHER'S RACE	AGE OF MOTHER																				TOTAL
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45+		UNK		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
WHITE	7	0.1	184	2.6	411	5.9	1,801	25.8	1,940	27.8	1,621	23.3	802	11.5	189	2.7	7	0.1	6	0.1	6,968
NATIVE	7	0.3	168	7.3	239	10.4	691	30.0	564	24.5	415	18.0	178	7.7	35	1.5			3	0.1	2,300
BLACK			28	6.3	56	12.5	157	35.1	106	23.7	73	16.3	23	5.1	4	0.9					447
ASIAN/PI	1	0.2	19	3.9	24	4.9	109	22.5	141	29.1	126	26.0	56	11.5	7	1.4	1	0.2	1	0.2	485
UNKNOWN			1	4.5			5	22.7	6	27.3	6	27.3	4	18.2							22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>2,757</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>2,241</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>10,222</b>

**TABLE 1.8B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S AGE AND NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN, ALASKA, 1995**

MOTHER'S AGE	NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN							TOTAL
	NONE	ONE	TWO	3-4	5-9	10+	UNK	
<15 YRS	14	1						15
15-17 YRS	362	35	3					400
18-19 YRS	564	137	24	4	1			730
20-24 YRS	1,315	942	368	131	6		1	2,763
25-29 YRS	881	871	582	361	57		5	2,757
30-34 YRS	533	658	496	424	126		4	2,241
35-39 YRS	221	297	212	221	100	5	7	1,063
40-44 YRS	56	45	48	46	31	7	2	235
45+ YRS	2	3	1	2				8
UNKWN	2	2	2				4	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,950</b>	<b>2,991</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10,222</b>

**MOTHER'S MARITAL STATUS**

Although the crude birth rate declined from 17.7 live births per 1,000 population in 1994 to 16.9 live births per 1,000 population in 1995, the percentage of babies born to single mothers as a percentage of the whole continues to increase. In 1994, births to single mothers represented 29.3 percent of all births; in 1995 births to single mothers accounted for 29.9 percent of all births. This compares to 32.2 percent of all births for the United States for 1995.<sup>5</sup>

In 1960, 15 percent of births to U.S. mothers under the age of 20 were to single mothers, and 5 percent of births to U.S. mothers ages 20-24 were to single mothers. In 1993, 72 percent of births to U.S. mothers under the age of 20 were to single mothers, and 42 percent of births to U.S. mothers ages 20-24 were to single mothers.<sup>6</sup> In Alaska in 1995, 38.0 percent of births to mothers ages 20-24 were to single mothers.

Alaskan mothers in all age groups are more likely to be unmarried in 1995 than ten years ago. In 1985, 51.1 percent of Alaska resident teen mothers were single. In 1995, 75.1 percent of Alaska resident teen mothers were single. In 1995, 29.1 percent of Alaska resident mothers ages 20-29 were single, up from 16.4 percent of mothers ages 20-29 in 1985. Of mothers ages 30-39, 10.3 percent were single in 1985; 16.4 percent were single in 1995.

Single mothers and married mothers present some alarming comparisons. In 1995, the median age of married mothers was 28 years; the median age of single mothers was 22 years. Of all mothers from 1991-1995, only 21.5

5 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 7.  
 6 Child Trends, Inc., Washington, DC. "Facts at a Glance," January 1996.

percent of single mothers had some college education, while 51.6 percent of married mothers had some college education. Sixty-two percent of unmarried mothers from 1991-1995 had adequate prenatal care while 78.2 percent of married mothers received adequate prenatal care. From 1991-1995, 22.1 percent of married mothers gained less than 25 pounds, while 26.3 percent of single mothers gained less than 25 pounds. Single mothers were more likely to deliver low birth weight infants than married mothers (6.3 percent vs. 4.5 percent). Single mothers were much more likely to report using tobacco (39.2% vs. 14.9%) and alcohol (13.6% vs. 4.9%) during pregnancy. Since unmarried mothers are younger, less educated, are less likely to have adequate prenatal care, are more likely to have inadequate weight gain, are more likely to deliver low birth weight infants, and are reported to be more likely to use tobacco and alcohol, their babies are more likely to be disadvantaged at birth.

TABLE 1.9A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL					
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	
ALEUTN EAST	2	10	3	1		1	7				3	17	3	2		25
ALEUTN WEST	1	17	10	8	3	2	4	1		1	3	21	11	8	4	47
ANCHORAGE	189	1,135	982	865	21	360	586	204	71	26	549	1,721	1,186	936	47	4,439
ANG-HNH-SKG		6	7	3	2	4	6	5		1	4	12	12	3	3	34
BETHEL	32	134	34	21	5	37	92	19	1	8	69	226	53	22	13	383
BRISTOL BAY		9	4	4	1	1	3	1			1	12	5	4	1	23
DENALI	2	6	9	13			1	3	2		2	7	12	15		36
DILLINGHAM	5	39	14	7	2	11	29	2	2	3	16	68	16	9	5	114
FAIRBANKS	67	467	355	281	9	89	118	79	20	4	156	585	434	301	13	1,489
HAINES	1	7	3	4	7			2		2	1	7	5	4	9	26
JUNEAU	12	75	80	84	27	19	46	23	9	14	31	121	103	93	41	389
KENAI PEN	56	170	147	102	20	41	73	36	14	9	97	243	183	116	29	668
KETCHIKAN	6	45	41	33	5	17	32	11	1	1	23	77	52	34	6	192
KODIAK	19	66	66	47	2	28	29	11	3	2	47	95	77	50	4	273
LAKE-PENIN	2	14	3	1		11	7	1	1		13	21	4	2		40
MAT-SU	38	204	178	102	4	47	127	47	13	2	85	331	225	115	6	762
NOME	8	49	16	12		23	63	7	1	2	31	112	23	13	2	181
NORTH SLOPE	6	18	8	5	2	33	41	7		6	39	59	15	5	8	126
NW ARCTIC	11	33	8	4	1	17	40	5		3	28	73	13	4	4	122
PRINCE-WALES	13	40	9	12	2	8	14	3	1	2	21	54	12	13	4	104
SITKA	9	16	30	35	6	6	10	9	1	2	15	26	39	36	8	124
SE FAIRBANKS	3	36	16	13		9	13	3			12	49	19	13		93
VALDEZ-CORDV	4	25	33	35	1	10	23	4	1		14	48	37	36	1	136
WADE HAMPTON	12	52	12	6	1	34	69	6	1	8	46	121	18	7	9	201
WRANGELL-PBG	6	24	13	15	3	8	15	2	2		14	39	15	17	3	88
YAKUTAT	1	1	1	3		1	4	2	1		2	5	3	4		14
YUKON-KOY	1	25	8	7		16	26	6	2	2	17	51	14	9	2	93
TOTAL	506	2,723	2,090	1,723	124	833	1,478	499	148	98	1,339	4,201	2,589	1,871	222	10,222

TABLE 1.9B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1995

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL					
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	
AHTNA INC	1	8	11	14	1	3	12	2	1		4	20	13	15	1	53
ALEUT CORP	3	27	13	9	3	3	11	1	1	1	6	38	14	10	4	72
ARCTIC SLO	6	18	8	5	2	33	41	7		6	39	59	15	5	8	126
BERING STS	8	49	16	12		23	63	7	1	2	31	112	23	13	2	181
BRISTOL BY	7	61	20	11	3	23	39	4	3	3	30	100	24	14	6	174
CALISTA CP	44	186	46	27	6	71	161	25	2	16	115	347	71	29	22	584
CHUGACH	6	29	40	32		10	22	5		1	16	51	45	32	1	145
COOK INLET	280	1,499	1,291	1,062	45	445	775	285	98	36	725	2,274	1,576	1,160	81	5,816
DOYON LTD	73	533	387	311	9	114	158	90	24	6	187	691	477	335	15	1,705
KONIAG INC	19	66	66	47	2	28	29	11	3	2	47	95	77	50	4	273
NANA CORP	11	33	8	4	1	17	40	5		3	28	73	13	4	4	122
SEALASKA	48	214	184	189	52	63	127	57	15	22	111	341	241	204	74	971
TOTAL	506	2,723	2,090	1,723	124	833	1,478	499	148	98	1,339	4,201	2,589	1,871	222	10,222

TABLE 1.10 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S RACE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RACE	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL					
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	
WHITE	302	1,876	1,683	1,536	85	361	670	313	117	25	663	2,546	1,996	1,653	110	6,968
NATIVE	153	596	199	68	19	399	655	129	17	65	552	1,251	328	85	84	2,300
BLACK	11	115	100	38		39	96	38	6	4	50	211	138	44	4	447
ASIAN/PI	39	130	108	79	12	32	57	18	8	2	71	187	126	87	14	485
UNKNOWN	1	6		2	8	2		1		2	3	6	1	2	10	22
TOTAL	506	2,723	2,090	1,723	124	833	1,478	499	148	98	1,339	4,201	2,589	1,871	222	10,222

TABLE 1.11 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S AGE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S AGE	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL		
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL							
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION							
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	TTL	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	TTL	0-11	12	13-15		16+	UNK
<15 YRS						14					1	15	14				1	15
15-17 YRS	36	7	1			44	282	59	2		13	356	318	66	3		13	400
18-19 YRS	63	154	18	2	4	241	155	282	35	2	15	489	218	436	53	4	19	730
20-24 YRS	170	897	522	107	18	1,714	206	591	196	28	28	1,049	376	1,488	718	135	46	2,763
25-29 YRS	110	791	739	519	40	2,199	82	277	142	40	17	558	192	1,068	881	559	57	2,757
30-34 YRS	83	574	523	656	37	1,873	63	181	70	37	17	368	146	755	593	693	54	2,241
35-39 YRS	37	254	233	348	16	888	26	73	43	30	3	175	63	327	276	378	19	1,063
40-44 YRS	7	46	51	83	6	193	3	15	11	10	3	42	10	61	62	93	9	235
45+ YRS			2	6		8									2	6		8
UNKWN			1	2	3	6	2				1	4	2		1	3	4	10
TOTAL	506	2,723	2,090	1,723	124	7,166	833	1,478	499	148	98	3,056	1,339	4,201	2,589	1,871	222	10,222

## AGES OF MOTHERS AND FATHERS

In 1995 there were 285 infants born to married teenage mothers and 73 infants born to mothers married to teenage fathers. Forty-four infants were born to married mothers under the age of 18 and eleven infants were born to mothers married to fathers under the age of 18. Forty-three percent of all married fathers and 54.6 percent of all married mothers were ages 20-29. Women from ages 30-39 accounted for 38.5 percent of all married mothers, and 44.6 percent of all married fathers were from 30-39 years of age. Only 2.8 percent of married mothers were 40 or over, while 10.6 percent of married fathers were 40 or over.

TABLE 1.12 RESIDENT BIRTHS TO MARRIED MOTHERS BY THE MOTHER'S AGE AND FATHER'S AGE, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S AGE	FATHER'S AGE									TOTAL
	<18 YRS	18-19 YRS	20-24 YRS	25-29 YRS	30-34 YRS	35-39 YRS	40-44 YRS	45+ YRS	UNKWN	
15-17 YRS	6	4	30	2	2					44
18-19 YRS	3	34	165	25	8	2	2		2	241
20-24 YRS	1	24	803	646	165	45	15	9	6	1,714
25-29 YRS			174	994	751	204	53	17	6	2,199
30-34 YRS	1		25	210	906	501	153	73	4	1,873
35-39 YRS			1	30	149	401	199	101	7	888
40-44 YRS				6	17	41	85	44		193
45+ YRS					1		3	4		8
UNKWN									6	6
TOTAL	11	62	1,198	1,913	1,999	1,194	510	248	31	7,166

Calculating ages of mothers and fathers at the time of pregnancy shows that there were 196 mothers who were less than 16 years of age at the time pregnancy began. The ages of 86 of these fathers is unknown. Of the 110 fathers whose age is known, 71 were at least 16 years of age and from 3 to 16 years older than the mother. There were six infants born to mothers more than three years older than the fathers who were less than 16 years of age. It is clear that part of the problem of teen pregnancy is due to the actions of adults.

## PRENATAL CARE

Prenatal care is defined as pregnancy-related health care services given to women between conception and delivery. This care includes monitoring health, encouraging good health habits, and providing information and social and psychological support. The Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics uses the Kessner Index<sup>7</sup> to evaluate levels of prenatal care. This index is described in Appendix D.

In 1995, 73.9 percent of all infants born to Alaska resident mothers received adequate prenatal care, compared to 74.6 percent in 1994. In general, those infants whose mothers were at least 20 years old received a higher level of prenatal care while infants born to teenage mothers received less prenatal care. (See Table 1.15.) In the years 1991-1995, married mothers, mothers with more education, and white and black mothers received higher levels of prenatal care than unmarried mothers, mothers with less education, or Native and Asian/Pacific Islander mothers. (See Chart 1.7.)

7 Kessner, D. "Infant Death: An Analysis by Maternal Risk and Health Care." Institute of Medicine, *Contrasts in Health Status, Volume 1*, 1973. National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, pp. 58-60.

TABLE 1.13A PRENATAL CARE BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
ALEUTN EAST	18	72.0	6	24.0	1	4.0	25
ALEUTN WEST	33	70.2	9	19.1	5	10.6	47
ANCHORAGE	3,790	85.4	494	11.1	155	3.5	4,439
ANG-HNH-SKG	7	20.6	13	38.2	14	41.2	34
BETHEL	253	66.1	96	25.1	34	8.9	383
BRISTOL BAY	15	65.2	6	26.1	2	8.7	23
DENALI	23	63.9	13	36.1			36
DILLINGHAM	66	57.9	33	28.9	15	13.2	114
FAIRBANKS	1,039	69.8	331	22.2	119	8.0	1,489
HAINES	11	42.3	7	26.9	8	30.8	26
JUNEAU	257	66.1	106	27.2	26	6.7	389
KENAI PEN	391	58.5	214	32.0	63	9.4	668
KETCHIKAN	144	75.0	35	18.2	13	6.8	192
KODIAK	160	58.6	89	32.6	24	8.8	273
LAKE-PENIN	24	60.0	13	32.5	3	7.5	40
MAT-SU	555	72.8	158	20.7	49	6.4	762
NOME	125	69.1	37	20.4	19	10.5	181
NORTH SLOPE	81	64.3	29	23.0	16	12.7	126
NW ARCTIC	53	43.4	48	39.3	21	17.2	122
PRINCE-WALES	52	50.0	36	34.6	16	15.4	104
SITKA	90	72.6	25	20.2	9	7.3	124
SE FAIRBANKS	42	45.2	27	29.0	24	25.8	93
VALDEZ-CORDV	94	69.1	34	25.0	8	5.9	136
WADE HAMPTON	125	62.2	56	27.9	20	10.0	201
WRANGELL-PBG	52	59.1	25	28.4	11	12.5	88
YAKUTAT	8	57.1	2	14.3	4	28.6	14
YUKON-KOY	42	45.2	31	33.3	20	21.5	93
TOTAL	7,550	73.9	1,973	19.3	699	6.8	10,222

TABLE 1.13B PRENATAL CARE BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1995

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
AHTNA INC	38	71.7	12	22.6	3	5.7	53
ALEUT CORP	51	70.8	15	20.8	6	8.3	72
ARCTIC SLO	81	64.3	29	23.0	16	12.7	126
BERING STS	125	69.1	37	20.4	19	10.5	181
BRISTOL BY	102	58.6	52	29.9	20	11.5	174
CALISTA CP	378	64.7	152	26.0	54	9.2	584
CHUGACH	103	71.0	35	24.1	7	4.8	145
COOK INLET	4,697	80.8	854	14.7	265	4.6	5,816
DOYON LTD	1,141	66.9	401	23.5	163	9.6	1,705
KONIAG INC	160	58.6	89	32.6	24	8.8	273
NANA CORP	53	43.4	48	39.3	21	17.2	122
SEALASKA	621	64.0	249	25.6	101	10.4	971
TOTAL	7,550	73.9	1,973	19.3	699	6.8	10,222

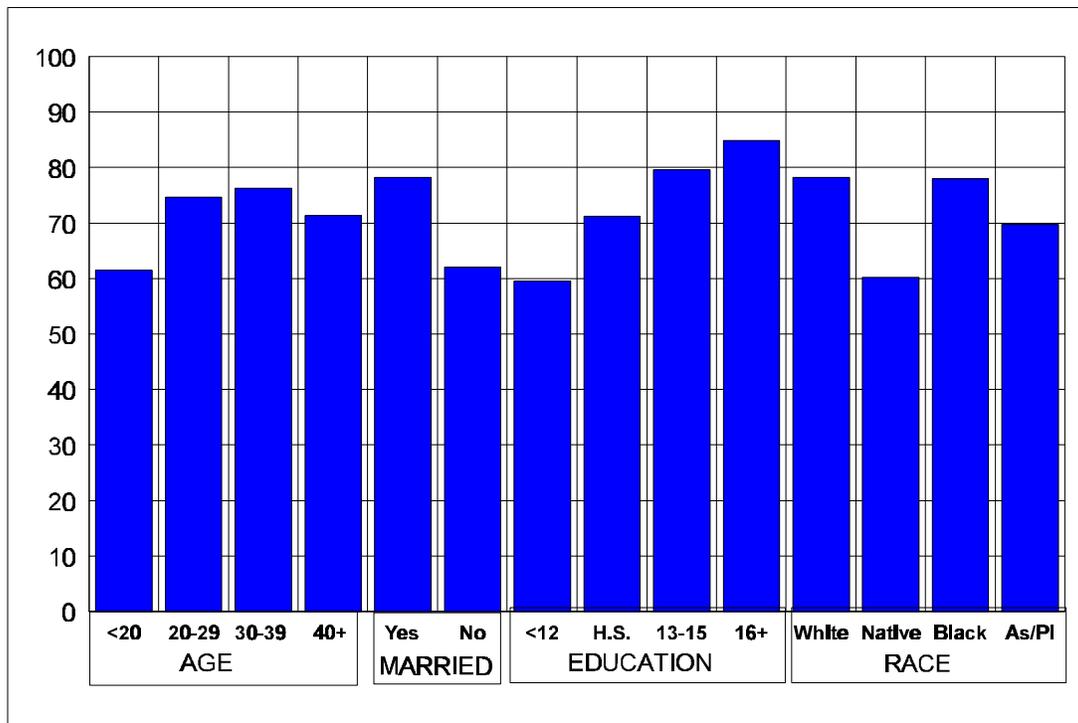
TABLE 1.14 PRENATAL CARE BY RACE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RACE	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
WHITE	5,440	78.1	1,152	16.5	376	5.4	6,968
NATIVE	1,398	60.8	642	27.9	260	11.3	2,300
BLACK	356	79.6	68	15.2	23	5.1	447
ASIAN/PI	346	71.3	107	22.1	32	6.6	485
UNKNOWN	10	45.5	4	18.2	8	36.4	22
TOTAL	7,550	73.9	1,973	19.3	699	6.8	10,222

TABLE 1.15 PRENATAL CARE BY AGE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S AGE	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
<15 YRS	9	60.0	3	20.0	3	20.0	15
15-17 YRS	225	56.3	122	30.5	53	13.3	400
18-19 YRS	460	63.0	213	29.2	57	7.8	730
20-24 YRS	2,007	72.6	574	20.8	182	6.6	2,763
25-29 YRS	2,154	78.1	446	16.2	157	5.7	2,757
30-34 YRS	1,709	76.3	386	17.2	146	6.5	2,241
35-39 YRS	809	76.1	181	17.0	73	6.9	1,063
40-44 YRS	169	71.9	44	18.7	22	9.4	235
45+ YRS	7	87.5	1	12.5			8
UNKWN	1	10.0	3	30.0	6	60.0	10
TOTAL	7,550	73.9	1,973	19.3	699	6.8	10,222

**CHART 1.7 PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS RECEIVING ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995**



**BIRTH FACILITIES AND BIRTH ATTENDANTS**

The overwhelming majority of babies were delivered in hospitals by medical doctors (77.2%); however, several hospitals had a significant percentage of births attended by certified nurse midwives: South Peninsula Hospital in Homer, 57.2%; Elmendorf Air Force Base Hospital, 58.2%; Bassett Army Hospital, 34.7%; Alaska Native Medical Center, 26.4%; and Providence Hospital, 12.4%. Doctors of Osteopathy attended a significant number of births in some facilities: Petersburg General Hospital, 47.6%; Norton Sound Regional Hospital in Nome, 34.3%; Kodiak Island Hospital, 33.9%; Bassett Army Hospital, 26.6%; Valley Hospital in Palmer, 23.1%; and Maniilaq Medical Center in Kotzebue, 21.2%.

Home births comprised only 2.1 percent of all births, but 76.5 percent of those births were attended by certified nurse midwives or direct entry midwives. Table 1.16 shows births by category of facility and type of attendant.

TABLE 1.16 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY TYPE OF ATTENDANT AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1995

TYPE OF ATTENDANT	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER	CLINIC/ DR OFFICE	HOME	OTHER	
MEDICAL DOCTOR (MD)	7,891		25	5		7,921
CERT NURSE MIDWIFE	1,447	30		21		1,498
MIDWIFE		55	33	145		233
NURSE	12		2	1		15
CERT HEALTH PRACT			15	2		17
HOSP ADMIN	2					2
DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHY (DO)	424		2	1		427
OTHER	2	2	5	35	3	47
UNKNOWN	55			7		62
TOTAL	9,833	87	82	217	3	10,222

TABLE 1.17A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER	CLINIC/ DR OFFICE	HOME	OTHER	
ALEUTIANS EAST			1			1
ANCHORAGE	5,245	27	1	80	1	5,354
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG				1		1
BETHEL	396		7	2		405
DILLINGHAM	76		2	1		79
FAIRBANKS NSB	1,601	10	46	19	2	1,678
HAINES BOROUGH				1		1
JUNEAU BOROUGH	381			20		401
KENAI PENINSULA	563			37		600
KETCHIKAN	278			1		279
KODIAK ISLAND	230		1	6		237
LAKE-PENINSULA			1			1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	477	50		31		558
NOME	102		3	1		106
NORTH SLOPE	55		4			59
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	80		6			86
PRINCE OF WALES			1	5		6
SITKA BOROUGH	153			1		154
SE FAIRBANKS			1	5		6
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	36			5		41
WADE HAMPTON			8			8
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	50					50
YUKON-KOYUKUK				1		1
OUT OF STATE	110					110
TOTAL	9,833	87	82	217	3	10,222

**TABLE 1.17B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1995**

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER	CLINIC/ DR OFFICE	HOME	OTHER	
AHTNA INC				3		3
ALEUT CORP			1			1
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP	55		4			59
BERING STRAITS CORP	102		3	1		106
BRISTOL BAY CORP	76		3	1		80
CALISTA CORP	396		15	2		413
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	38			4		42
COOK INLET REG CORP	6,283	77	1	146	1	6,508
DOYON LTD	1,601	10	47	25	2	1,685
KONIAG INC	230		1	6		237
NANA REGIONAL CORP	80		6			86
SEALASKA CORP	862		1	29		892
OUT OF STATE	110					110
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,833</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10,222</b>

**TABLE 1.18 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S RACE AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1995**

MOTHER'S RACE	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER	CLINIC/ DR OFFICE	HOME	OTHER	
WHITE	6,630	84	44	208	2	6,968
NATIVE	2,256	1	34	8	1	2,300
BLACK	446	1				447
ASIAN/PI	479	1	4	1		485
UNKNOWN	22					22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,833</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10,222</b>

**TABLE 1.19 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S EDUCATION AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1995**

MOTHER'S EDUCATION	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER	CLINIC/ DR OFFICE	HOME	OTHER	
0-11	1,292	8	11	28		1,339
12	4,079	31	37	52	2	4,201
13-15	2,473	31	18	67		2,589
16+	1,776	16	15	64		1,871
UNK	213	1	1	6	1	222
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,833</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10,222</b>

TABLE 1.20A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE AND BY BIRTH ATTENDANT TYPE, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	ATTENDANT TYPE									TOTAL
	M.D.	CERT NURSE MIDWIFE	MIDWIFE	NURSE	CERT HEALTH PRACT	HOSPITAL ADMIN.	D.O.	OTHER	UNK	
ALEUTIANS EAST								1		1
ANCHORAGE	4,149	1,139	55	2				6	3	5,354
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG			1							1
BETHEL	374	21			5	2		2	1	405
DILLINGHAM	75	1		1				2		79
FAIRBANKS NSB	1,246	207	53	8			159	5		1,678
HAINES BOROUGH								1		1
JUNEAU BOROUGH	379	2	16					4		401
KENAI PENINSULA	435	117	26				14	7	1	600
KETCHIKAN	278		1							279
KODIAK ISLAND	149		6	3			78		1	237
LAKE-PENINSULA					1					1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	367	6	71				110	4		558
NOME	68				1		36	1		106
NORTH SLOPE	53				2		3	1		59
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	66				3		17			86
PRINCE OF WALES				1					5	6
SITKA BOROUGH	153		1							154
SE FAIRBANKS	1							5		6
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	36		2					2	1	41
WADE HAMPTON	3		1		4					8
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	40						10			50
YUKON-KOYUKUK					1					1
OUT OF STATE	49	5						1	55	110
TOTAL	7,921	1,498	233	15	17	2	427	47	62	10,222

TABLE 1.20B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE AND BY BIRTH ATTENDANT TYPE, ALASKA, 1995

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	ATTENDANT TYPE									TOTAL
	M.D.	CERT NURSE MIDWIFE	MIDWIFE	NURSE	CERT HEALTH PRACT	HOSPITAL ADMIN.	D.O.	OTHER	UNK	
AHTNA INC								2	1	3
ALEUT CORP								1		1
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP	53				2		3	1		59
BERING STRAITS CORP	68				1		36	1		106
BRISTOL BAY CORP	75	1		1	1			2		80
CALISTA CORP	377	21	1		9	2		2	1	413
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	38		4							42
COOK INLET REG CORP	4,949	1,262	150	2			124	17	4	6,508
DOYON LTD	1,247	207	53	8	1		159	10		1,685
KONIAG INC	149		6	3			78		1	237
NANA REGIONAL CORP	66				3		17			86
SEALASKA CORP	850	2	19	1			10	10		892
OUT OF STATE	49	5						1	55	110
TOTAL	7,921	1,498	233	15	17	2	427	47	62	10,222

TABLE 1.21 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY RACE OF MOTHER AND BY BIRTH ATTENDANT TYPE, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RACE	ATTENDANT TYPE									TOTAL
	M.D.	CERT NURSE MIDWIFE	MIDWIFE	NURSE	CERT HEALTH PRACT	HOSPITAL ADMIN.	D.O.	OTHER	UNK	
WHITE	5,314	1,051	224	10			286	36	47	6,968
NATIVE	1,904	280	3	5	17	2	76	11	2	2,300
BLACK	303	112					30			447
ASIAN/PI	391	52	6				33		3	485
UNKNOWN	9	3					2		8	22
TOTAL	7,921	1,498	233	15	17	2	427	47	62	10,222

## BIRTH WEIGHT

Tables 1.22A, 1.22B, and 1.23 show numbers of births by birth weight. Table 1.22A shows birth weight by census area; Table 1.22B by Native regional corporation; and Table 1.23 by race. Infants weighing less than 2,500 grams (5 pounds 8 ounces or less) are defined as low birth weight babies. Infants weighing less than 1,500 grams (3 pounds, 5 ounces) are very low birth weight. Causes of low birth weight are analyzed because low birth weight infants are at much greater risk of mortality and long-term disability.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 16.

TABLE 1.22A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1995

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	UNKN	<750	750-1499	1500-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-4499	4500+	
ALEUTIANS EAST				4	2	8	10	1	25
ALEUTIANS WEST				3	4	18	19	3	47
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	16	13	40	218	610	1,484	1,960	98	4,439
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKAGWAY					4	10	19	1	34
BETHEL	1		3	14	47	120	187	11	383
BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH						9	13	1	23
DENALI BOROUGH				3	3	15	15		36
DILLINGHAM		1	3	4	17	28	58	3	114
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	3	4	4	61	188	508	676	45	1,489
HAINES BOROUGH	6			2	2	3	8	5	26
JUNEAU BOROUGH		1	1	9	45	137	184	12	389
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH	2		8	26	69	194	343	26	668
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH			2	4	20	63	93	10	192
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH	1		2	16	35	90	121	8	273
LAKE AND PENINSULA				1	3	16	19	1	40
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH		3	4	35	102	238	357	23	762
NOME			1	5	14	50	101	10	181
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH				7	16	31	69	3	126
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH			2	3	14	27	68	8	122
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN	2			4	7	34	51	6	104
SITKA BOROUGH	1			5	11	46	58	3	124
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS	1		1	5	10	34	41	1	93
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	1		1	6	16	55	53	4	136
WADE HAMPTON				9	20	56	112	4	201
WRANGELL-PETERSBURG				1	11	29	45	2	88
YAKUTAT					1	3	9	1	14
YUKON-KOYUKUK		1		1	9	25	52	5	93
TOTAL	34	23	72	446	1,280	3,331	4,741	295	10,222

TABLE 1.22B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1995

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	UNKN	<750	750-1499	1500-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-4499	4500+	
AHTNA INC	1			1	6	24	20	1	53
ALEUT CORP				7	6	26	29	4	72
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP				7	16	31	69	3	126
BERING STRAITS CORP			1	5	14	50	101	10	181
BRISTOL BAY CORP		1	3	5	20	53	87	5	174
CALISTA CORP	1		3	23	67	176	299	15	584
CHUGACH NATIVES INC			1	10	18	47	66	3	145
COOK INLET REG CORP	18	16	52	274	775	1,904	2,630	147	5,816
DOYON LTD	4	5	5	70	208	578	784	51	1,705
KONIAG INC	1		2	16	35	90	121	8	273
NANA REGIONAL CORP			2	3	14	27	68	8	122
SEALASKA CORP	9	1	3	25	101	325	467	40	971
TOTAL	34	23	72	446	1,280	3,331	4,741	295	10,222

TABLE 1.23 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY RACE OF MOTHER AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1995

MOTHER'S RACE	BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	UNKN	<750	750-1499	1500-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-4499	4500+	
WHITE	17	10	48	293	852	2,288	3,263	197	6,968
NATIVE	9	7	14	87	256	672	1,174	81	2,300
BLACK	1	2	9	43	90	174	124	4	447
ASIAN/PI	1	4	1	21	81	191	173	13	485
UNKNOWN	6			2	1	6	7		22
TOTAL	34	23	72	446	1,280	3,331	4,741	295	10,222

## LOW BIRTH WEIGHT PERCENTS

In Alaska, low birth weight percentages are calculated for a five-year period to reduce the possibility of year-to-year random fluctuations. From 1991 through 1995, 5.0 percent of all Alaska resident births resulted in low birth weight babies. During 1995 the U.S. low birth weight percentage was 7.3 percent.<sup>9</sup> Of all multiple birth infants (i.e. twins, etc.), 43.3 percent were characterized by low birth weight.

Tables 1.24A and 1.24B show the number and percent of very low birth weight births (less than 1500 grams), the number and percent of low birth weight births (from 1500 to 2499 grams), the number and percent of births 2500 grams and over, and the number and percent of births where the birth weight is unknown. Note that the total shows that 94.8 percent of all births fall in the 2500+ category.

<sup>9</sup> National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 2.

TABLE 1.24A BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S CENSUS AREA, ALASKA, 1991-1995

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
ALEUTIANS EAST			6	4.7	123	95.3			129
ALEUTIANS WEST	3	0.5	17	3.0	541	96.3	1	0.2	562
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	259	1.1	1,093	4.6	22,261	94.1	37	0.2	23,650
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKAGWAY			4	2.0	181	89.2	18	8.9	203
BETHEL	16	0.8	80	3.8	2,004	95.3	2	0.1	2,102
BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH			2	2.2	90	97.8			92
DENALI BOROUGH			6	4.7	121	95.3			127
DILLINGHAM	10	1.6	37	6.0	564	92.0	2	0.3	613
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	64	0.8	288	3.6	7,743	95.6	6	0.1	8,101
HAINES BOROUGH			6	4.3	108	77.7	25	18.0	139
JUNEAU BOROUGH	14	0.6	82	3.7	2,127	95.6	2	0.1	2,225
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH	29	0.8	122	3.4	3,397	95.6	6	0.2	3,554
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH	13	1.1	36	3.0	1,133	95.9			1,182
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH	14	1.0	61	4.3	1,349	94.6	2	0.1	1,426
LAKE AND PENINSULA	1	0.4	11	4.7	220	94.8			232
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH	34	0.9	145	4.0	3,414	95.0	2	0.1	3,595
NOME	9	0.8	38	3.5	1,052	95.5	2	0.2	1,101
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH	6	0.8	33	4.5	699	94.7			738
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH	12	1.4	36	4.1	822	94.4	1	0.1	871
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER									
KETCHIKAN	4	0.8	16	3.0	504	95.5	4	0.8	528
SITKA BOROUGH	3	0.4	29	3.9	711	95.6	1	0.1	744
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS	4	0.8	20	4.0	474	94.8	2	0.4	500
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	4	0.6	30	4.2	676	95.1	1	0.1	711
WADE HAMPTON	6	0.5	55	5.0	1,045	94.5			1,106
WRANGELL-PETERSBURG	1	0.2	14	2.8	483	97.0			498
YAKUTAT			1	1.7	58	98.3			59
YUKON-KOYUKUK	2	0.3	16	2.6	596	97.1			614
CENSUS AREA UNKNOWN					4	100.0			4
TOTAL	508	0.9	2,284	4.1	52,500	94.8	114	0.2	55,406

**TABLE 1.24B BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION, ALASKA, 1991-1995**

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
AHTNA INC			11	4.8	215	94.7	1	0.4	227
ALEUT CORP	3	0.4	23	3.3	664	96.1	1	0.1	691
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP	6	0.8	33	4.5	698	94.7			737
BERING STRAITS CORP	9	0.8	38	3.5	1,052	95.5	2	0.2	1,101
BRISTOL BAY CORP	11	1.2	50	5.4	863	93.2	2	0.2	926
CALISTA CORP	22	0.7	135	4.2	3,049	95.0	2	0.1	3,208
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	6	0.8	27	3.4	757	95.8			790
COOK INLET REG CORP	320	1.0	1,352	4.4	28,797	94.4	45	0.1	30,514
DOYON LTD	70	0.8	330	3.5	8,920	95.6	8	0.1	9,328
KONIAG INC	14	1.0	61	4.3	1,352	94.6	2	0.1	1,429
NANA REGIONAL CORP	12	1.4	36	4.1	822	94.4	1	0.1	871
SEALASKA CORP	35	0.6	188	3.4	5,305	95.1	50	0.9	5,578
UNKNOWN					6	100.0			6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>55,406</b>

**TABLE 1.25 BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S RACE, ALASKA, 1991-1995**

MOTHER'S RACE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
WHITE	309	0.8	1,432	3.8	35,765	95.3	35	0.1	37,541
NATIVE	109	0.9	521	4.1	11,928	94.8	26	0.2	12,584
BLACK	62	2.4	197	7.6	2,315	89.8	3	0.1	2,577
ASIAN/PI	27	1.1	124	5.0	2,351	93.9	3	0.1	2,505
UNKNOWN	1	0.5	10	5.0	141	70.9	47	23.6	199
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>55,406</b>

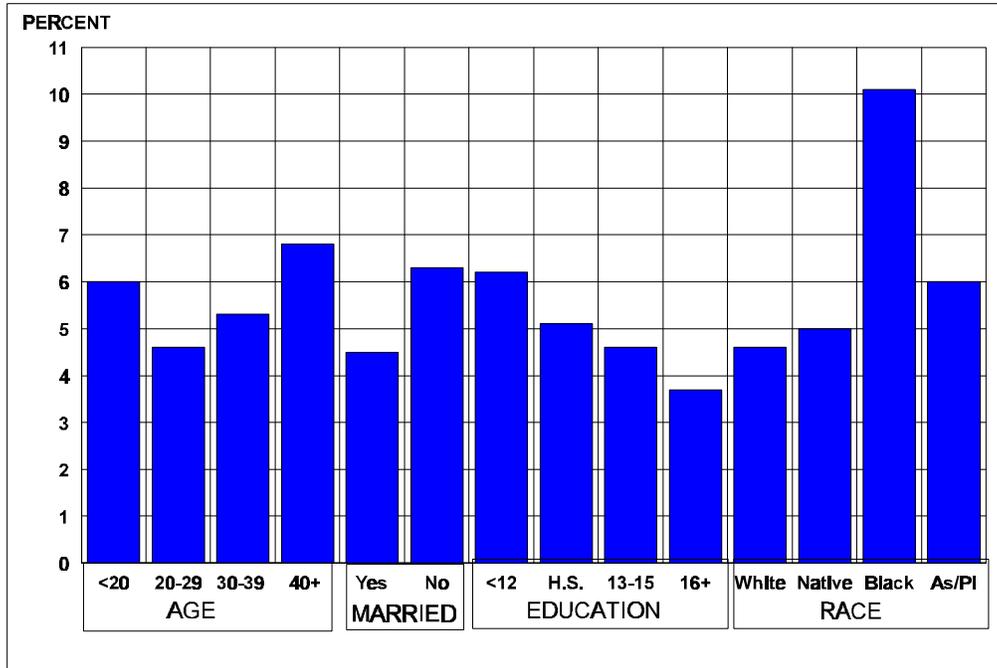
**TABLE 1.26 BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S AGE, ALASKA, 1991-1995**

MOTHER'S AGE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
<20 YRS	86	1.4	282	4.6	5,736	93.8	12	0.2	6,116
20-29 YRS	238	0.8	1,181	3.8	29,207	95.2	61	0.2	30,687
30-39 YRS	171	1.0	762	4.3	16,560	94.5	33	0.2	17,526
40+ YRS	13	1.2	58	5.5	975	92.9	4	0.4	1,050
UNKWN			1	3.7	22	81.5	4	14.8	27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>55,406</b>

Chart 1.8 shows percentage of low birth weight infants by demographic characteristics of mothers. Mothers age 40 and over had the highest low birth weight percentage followed by mothers under 20. Unmarried mothers had higher

low birth weight percentages. Low birth weight percentages were inversely proportional to the educational level of the mother. Black mothers had the highest low birth weight percentages.

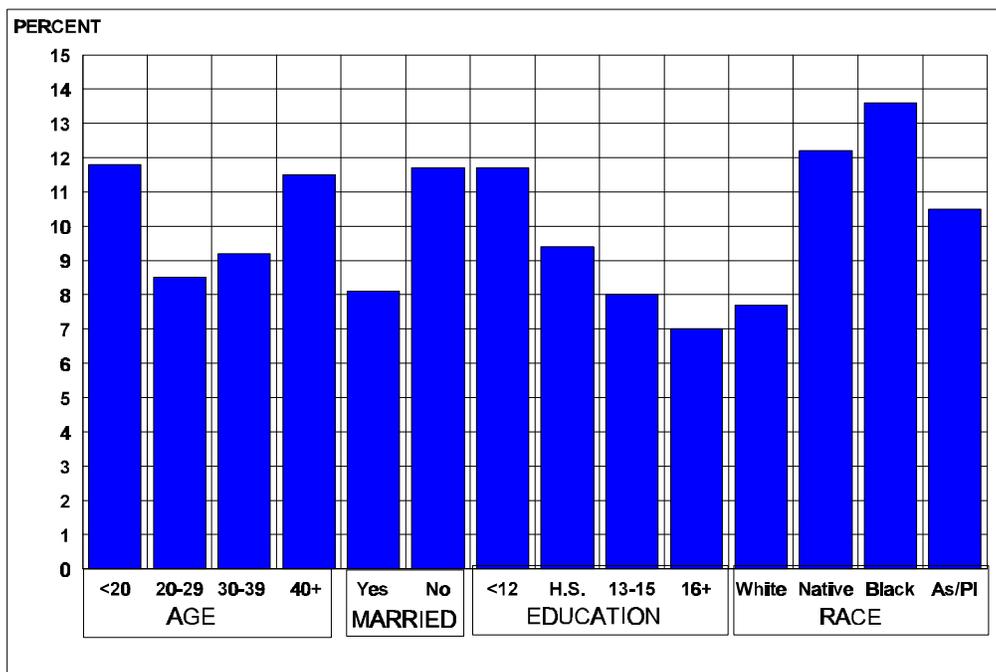
**CHART 1.8 PERCENTAGE OF LOW BIRTH WEIGHT INFANTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995**



**OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISONS**

As seen in Chart 1.8, there are distinct differences in low birth weight percentages according to demographic characteristics of mothers. Chart 1.9 shows similar differences in short gestation and demographic groups, with mothers under twenty, mothers forty and over, single mothers, mothers with less education, and black and Native mothers having a higher percentage of short gestation.

CHART 1.9 PERCENTAGE INFANTS BORN AT LESS THAN 37 WEEKS GESTATION BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995



Noting relationships between low birth weight and short gestation by demographic characteristics, this section looks at other factors affecting birth weight and gestation by demographic characteristics. Chart 1.10A shows percentage of multiple births by demographic groups. Although multiple births make up only 2.4 percent of all births from 1991-1995, they comprise 20.8 percent of all low birth weight infants. In addition, babies born in multiple births are at greater risk of pre-term delivery and death within the first year.<sup>10</sup> Chart 1.10A shows that multiple births occur more frequently to older mothers and mothers with some level of post-secondary education.

10 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 18.

CHART 1.10A PERCENTAGE OF MULTIPLE BIRTHS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995

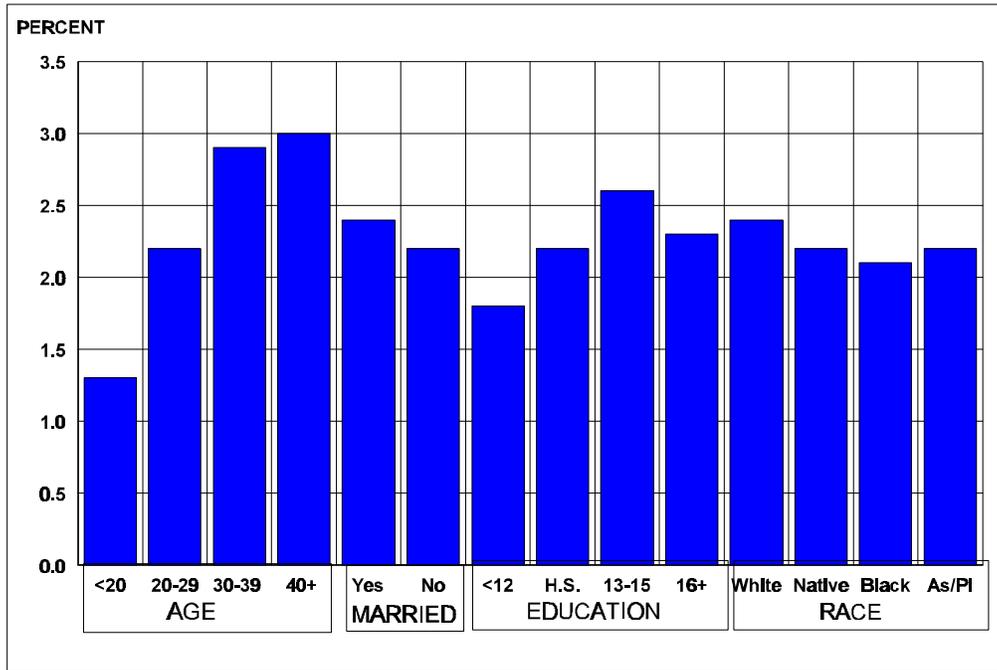


CHART 1.10B PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS USING TOBACCO BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995

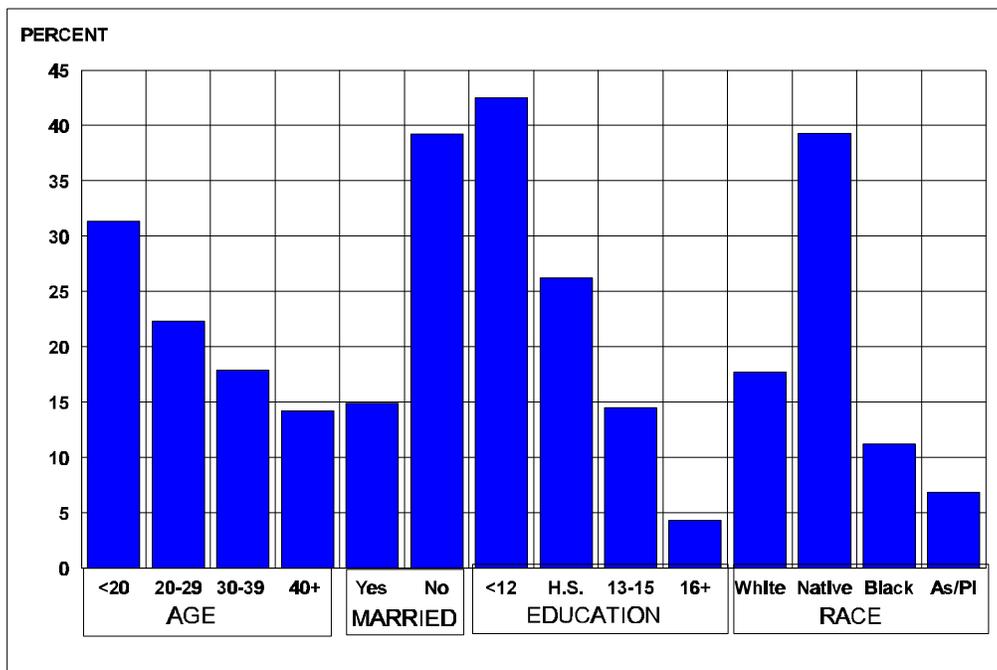


Chart 1.10B shows percentage of mothers who reported using tobacco by demographic group. Maternal smoking has been shown to have an adverse effect on birth weight.<sup>11</sup> In Alaska from 1991-1995, tobacco use was notably higher in younger mothers, mothers who were not married, mothers with less education, and Native mothers. What is particularly noteworthy is that 31.3 percent of teen mothers used tobacco compared with approximately 20.6 percent of older mothers, even though use of tobacco by anyone under the age of 19 is illegal.

Chart 1.10C shows the percentage of mothers gaining less than 25 pounds during pregnancy by demographic groups. The total weight gained by the mother during pregnancy has been shown to have an independent, positive relationship with the weight of the newborn.<sup>12</sup> Chart 1.10C shows that older mothers, unmarried mothers, mothers with less education, and Native mothers have a higher percentage of low weight gain than mothers in other demographic groups.

**CHART 1.10C PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS GAINING LESS THAN 25 POUNDS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995**

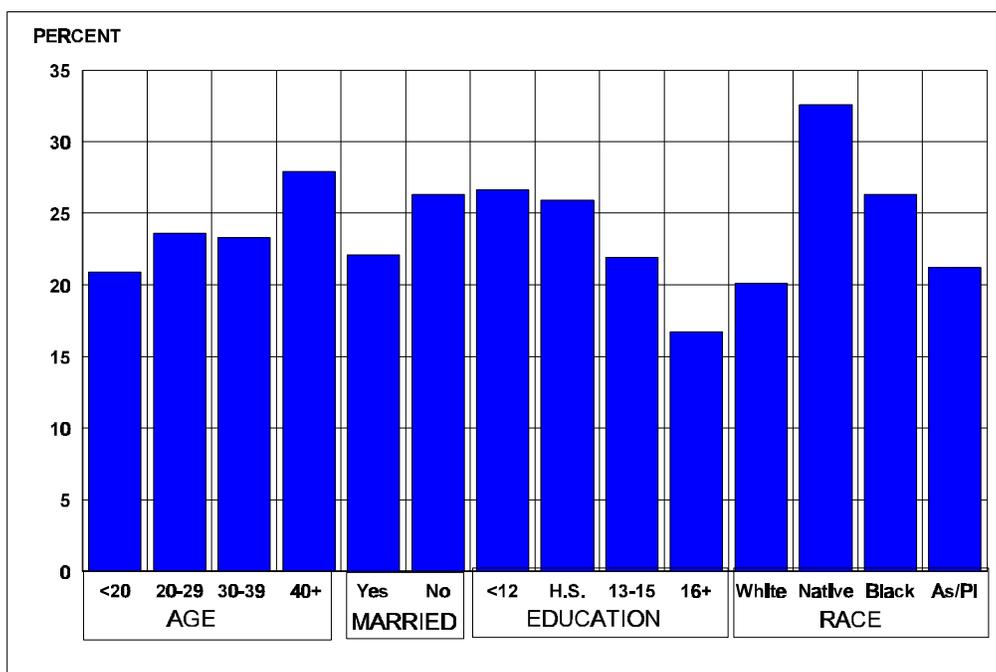


Chart 1.10D shows percentage of mothers by demographic group who deliver a baby within one year of a previous pregnancy. Closely spaced births have been associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes such as low birth weight, short gestation, fetal growth retardation, and perinatal mortality.<sup>13</sup> This chart shows that younger mothers, single mothers, mothers with less education, and Native mothers have a higher percentage of infants born within one year of a prior pregnancy.

11 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 3.

12 Ibid., p. 9.

13 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1993," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 43, No. 3(S), September 21, 1995, p. 20.

CHART 1.10D PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS GIVING BIRTH WITHIN ONE YEAR OF PRIOR PREGNANCY BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995

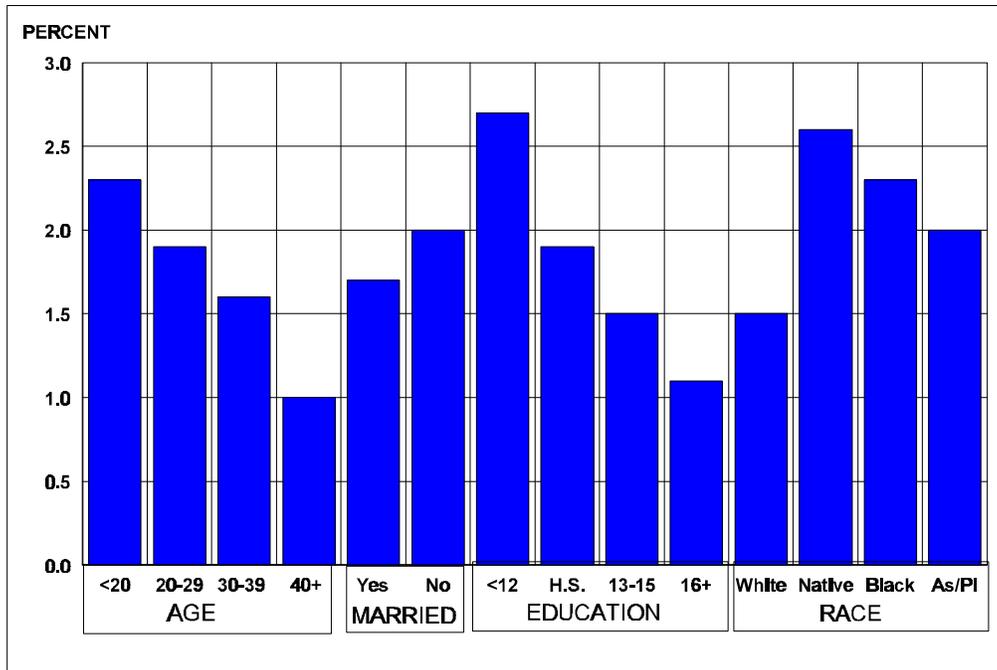


CHART 1.10E PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS USING ALCOHOL DURING PREGNANCY BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS, ALASKA, 1991-1995

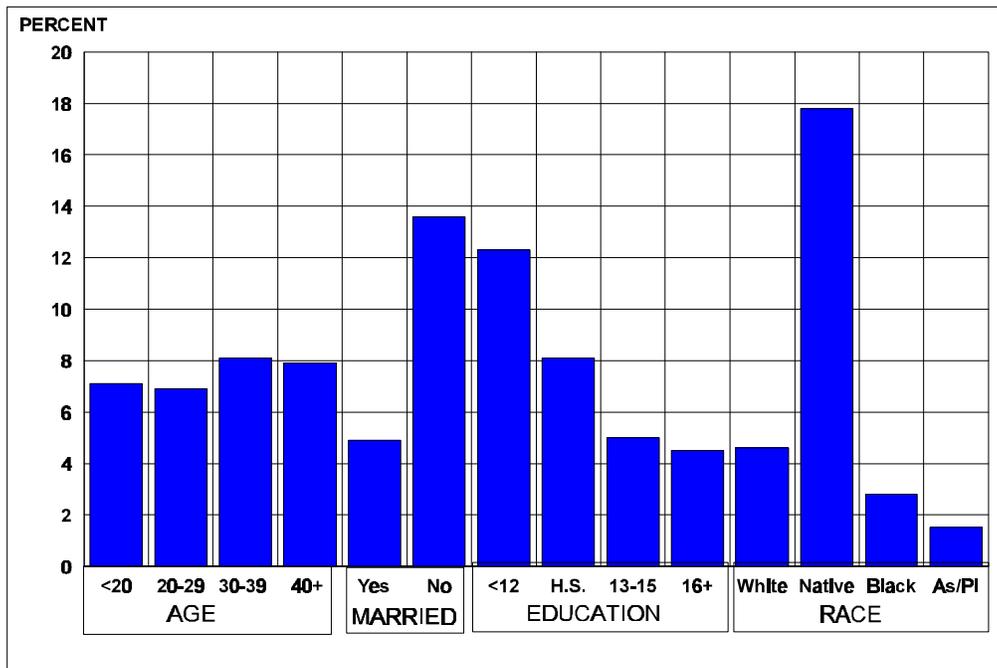


Chart 1.10E shows the percentage of mothers who reported using alcohol during pregnancy. Unmarried mothers were more than twice as likely to use alcohol as married mothers. Mothers with no more than a high school

education were more likely to use alcohol than mothers with at least some college. Native mothers were more than three times as likely to use alcohol than white mothers. Black and Asian/Pacific Islander mothers were much less likely to use alcohol than white mothers. There was not much difference in use of alcohol by age group, although mothers 30 and over were slightly more likely to use alcohol than mothers under 30. However, if all alcohol were used legally, there would be no alcohol use by any pregnant woman under the age of 21. The most severe adverse effect of excessive drinking is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) which results in disorders such as mental retardation.<sup>14</sup>

Charts 1.10A through 1.10E show that behaviors that lead to increased risks to infants differ among demographic groups. The implications for public health policy are that negative birth outcomes may be affected by improvements in prenatal care and education for younger mothers, unmarried mothers, mothers with less education, and Native mothers.

14 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 12.